

Prices and Price Indexes

E 1-214. General note.

An early interest in the statistics of prices was evident at the beginning of the 19th century, with the appearance in 1806 of Samuel Blodgett, Jr.'s *Economica: A Statistical Manual for the United States of America*, which included a collection of prices for 16 important commodities in 5 markets for 1785-1805. Many other contemporary accounts contained references to prices, but the first serious attempt to summarize comprehensive price data for the United States in the form of index numbers was made by Horatio C. Burchard, Director of the Mint. His report to the Secretary of the Treasury in 1881 contained wholesale prices for many individual articles and an index number (which contains some serious inadequacies). In 1886, a special report containing retail prices of about 60 "necessaries of life" was included in volume 20 of the Tenth Census, *Report on the Statistics of Wages in Manufacturing Industries*, by Joseph D. Weeks (usually called the *Weeks Report*). No summary figures were included in this volume.

In 1891, a Senate Resolution led to the collection of a voluminous body of data which covered wholesale prices for 1840-1891 and retail prices for a 28-month period ending September 1891, for more than 200 commodities. The information assembled was summarized by Roland P. Falkner, whose indexes have been widely used as evidence of price changes for 1840-1891. These indexes were prepared as estimates of changes in wage earners' cost of living, but, in actuality, they were indexes of wholesale prices for one month of each year. Their technical adequacy was the subject of considerable controversy at the time, but the deficiencies in the indexes do not detract from the historical value of the basic price data collected for the Senate Committee and published in the "Aldrich Reports," including *Wholesale Prices, Wages, and Transportation* (4 parts), Senate Report No. 1394, 1893, and *Retail Prices and Wages* (3 parts), Senate Report No. 986, 1892.

In 1900, Roland Falkner extended his indexes to 1899 with quotations for 142 articles collected by the Department of Labor, with some adjustments in his methods. The results are published in Department of Labor Bulletin No. 27, *Wholesale Prices: 1890 to 1899*, pp. 237-313. In 1902, the Department of Labor began publication of its index of wholesale prices, which has continued since without interruption.

Interest in price measurements following the upturn in prices after 1897 led to the preparation of a number of wholesale price indexes for the United States, in addition to the official Department of Labor index series. John R. Commons published an index of wholesale prices of 66 commodities for 1878-1900 in the *Quarterly Bulletin of the Bureau of Economic Research* for July and October 1900. Bradstreet's indexes of wholesale prices of about 96 commodities were established in 1897 and carried back to 1890. Dun's index numbers of wholesale prices for about 350 commodities were published in *Dun's Review* on a continuous basis beginning in 1901 and gradually extended back to 1860. These last 2 series were expressed as sums of actual prices rather than in the conventional index number form. Several other relatively short-lived series were also compiled during the next 10 to 20 years.

After 1902, when the Department of Labor's wholesale price index was continuously available, additions to wholesale price index numbers were mainly to obtain a better historical perspective. In 1932, the series of wholesale price indexes for 1720-1932 were completed by

G. F. Warren and F. A. Pearson (see series E 52-63). Part of this work was done under the auspices of the International Scientific Committee on Price History referred to below.

Walter B. Smith and Arthur H. Cole computed wholesale commodity price indexes covering 1792-1862 for *Fluctuations in American Business, 1790-1860*, Harvard Economic Studies, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, 1935. The series include wholesale commodity price indexes for Boston, 1792-1820; for Boston, New York, and Philadelphia, 1815-1845; and New York (primarily), 1843-1862.

Wholesale prices in Cincinnati were assembled from newspapers for 1844-1914 and an index published by Henry E. White in *Wholesale Prices at Cincinnati and New York*, Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station, *Memoir* 182, Ithaca, 1935.

The most extensive historical price investigations, however, were undertaken under the auspices of the International Scientific Committee on Price History. The results for 6 important marketing centers were summarized by Arthur H. Cole in *Wholesale Commodity Prices in the United States, 1700-1861*, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, 1938. The historical indexes are given in series E 90-122.

Wholesale price indexes were compiled by Frederick C. Mills for commodities grouped according to economically significant factors. Mills' studies of price relationships and price movements contain a number of special indexes which he derived by recombining price relatives for commodities in the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) indexes. These indexes include some special commodity groupings not used by BLS, e.g., crops, as well as classifications by stage of processing and by durability. Some series were first published by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) for 1890-1931 in *Economic Tendencies in the United States*, No. 21, New York, 1932, pp. 584-588. Additional indexes for 1913-1935 appeared in *Prices in Recession and Recovery*, NBER, No. 31, New York, 1936, pp. 491-547. Indexes through June 1943 were included in an appendix to *Prices in a War Economy*, NBER, Occasional Paper No. 12, October 1943, and through March 1948 in *The Structure of Postwar Prices*, NBER, Occasional Paper No. 27, July 1948.

The volume of information available for wholesale prices is not matched at the retail level, especially for the early years. The official Consumer Price Index of the BLS was initiated in 1904 with a food index. The *Eighteenth Annual Report of the Commissioner of Labor, 1903: Cost of Living and Retail Prices of Food* contained an index of retail prices of food for 1890-1903 weighted by family consumption in 1901. This food index was continued until the end of World War I, when it became one component group of a comprehensive "cost-of-living" index, originated as part of a study of cost of living in ship-building cities in 1918 and 1919. Supplementary price information had been collected by the BLS over the years, and a comprehensive index was compiled back to 1913. Since World War I, the index has undergone a number of changes in coverage and methodology, most of them in the direction of improvement in the quantity and quality of data. At present, the index is issued monthly under the official title Consumer Price Index, in brief press releases, in detailed reports, and in the *Monthly Labor Review* (see text for series E 135-173).

The National Industrial Conference Board also compiled a Consumer Price Index from 1918 to 1968. This index was similar to the BLS Consumer Price Index but the collection of data was primarily by mail instead of by personal visit. A description of the NIBCB index as it was compiled before discontinuance is included in the August 1954 issue of *Management Record*.

The index numbers of prices received and paid by farmers compiled by the Department of Agriculture were also initiated after World War I; see chapter K, series K 344-353.

Prior to 1913, except for the data in the *Weeks Report* and the *Aldrich Reports*, readily available retail price data are extremely spotty and inadequate. As a result, many of the indexes widely used to approximate changes in retail prices, rest entirely or partially on changes in wholesale prices. A serious limitation in these indexes is that allowance was not made for the slow-moving rents and services nor was account always taken of the difference in movement between wholesale and retail prices of commodities. Falkner's indexes referred to above, for example, were calculated entirely from wholesale price information. Adjustments to wholesale price movements combined with available BLS retail prices formed the basis for Douglas' index of the cost of living (series E 185). The only "cost-of-living" indexes now available for any years before 1913, computed from retail price data, are Wesley C. Mitchell's *Relative Cost of Living for 1860 to 1880*, the *Consumer Price Index for 1851 to 1880* compiled by Ethel Hoover (series E 174-182), and Rees' cost-of-living index, 1890-1914 (series E 186). The cost-of-living index computed by Wesley C. Mitchell for *Gold, Prices, and Wages Under the Greenback Standard*, University of California Publications in Economics, vol. 1, Berkeley, March 1908, p. 91, utilized a portion of the retail data in the *Weeks Report for 1860-1880*. The Mitchell series was included as one of the links in the cost-of-living index estimate of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York (series E 183). The Hoover Consumer Price Index for 1851-1880 was based largely on a summarization of all of the usable retail price information from the *Weeks Report*, with some additions from other sources. The Rees' cost-of-living index utilized some components of the Douglas' index, but most of the data were compiled from mail-order catalogs, newspapers, and other sources.

Over the years there has been considerable improvement in the quality of the price reporting, in the scope of the data, and in the construction of index numbers. The lists of commodities that are now included in the price collection program cover a wider range of goods in the market, and services are represented in the consumer price indexes. Commodities and services are now defined fairly precisely and the current collection methods give the opportunity of securing supplementary data on discounts, terms of delivery, and other necessary information to measure price change. Data for weighting systems for index numbers can now be taken from the greatly improved expenditure studies, censuses, and other official statistics.

As the indexes and price reports were extended to earlier years, many of these advantages making for better price measures were not present. The range of commodities and services for which information could be obtained from surviving records was very limited. At the wholesale level, the commodity coverage was limited primarily to raw materials and goods in the early stages of processing. The limited coverage of finished goods, especially after the Civil War, is an important factor in the interpretation of price changes. At retail, the available price data were relatively scant and the emphasis was on food and dry goods prices, with little information for other less important commodities and for rents and services. The perennial problem of changes in qualities, changes in consumer tastes, and demographic and other changes which are still present to some extent in the current indexes, become accentuated as price comparisons are made over longer periods of time.

The newspapers and other sources from which prices were assembled for the early years give only brief or vague descriptions for the commodities quoted and the compiler could not always be assured that quotations over time were for the same quality. Incomplete files, nominal prices, and nonpublication in some issues were among the many other problems encountered. Data obtained from records of surviving firms raise the further question of how well these surviving firms represented the movement of prices for all firms for the period under consideration.

E 1-22. Implicit price deflators for gross national product, 1929-1970.

Source: 1929-1963, U.S. Office of Business Economics, *The National Income and Product Accounts of the United States, 1929-1965*; 1964-1967, U.S. National Income and Product Accounts, 1964-67, tables 8.1 and 8.4; 1968-1970, U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, *Survey of Current Business*, July 1972, tables 8.1 and 8.4.

The implicit deflator for total gross national product (GNP) is the ratio of GNP in current prices to GNP in constant prices. It is a weighted average of the price indexes used to deflate the components of GNP; the implicit weights are expenditures in the current period valued in prices of the base year 1958. The implicit deflator measures the price change of a particular "market basket" since 1958. However, the market basket for any other period is not necessarily the same as for the base year 1958. Consequently, a comparison of the deflator for the current period with any period other than the base year measures both the effect of the difference between the weights in the two periods and the change in the price of a fixed market basket.

The deflation is not performed at the level of individual commodities: components that encompass expenditures on an array of commodities are deflated. On a quarterly basis, 142 components of GNP are deflated as shown below.

Gross national product.....	142
Personal consumption expenditures.....	41
Private fixed investment.....	42
Change in business inventories.....	10
Exports.....	3
Imports.....	3
Government purchases of goods and services.....	43

The components are deflated with conventional, fixed weighted price indexes that combine price relatives for individual types of commodities included in the expenditure component. Therefore, the implicit deflator involves current period weighting among the component price indexes, and fixed weighting within the components.

Differences between changes in the implicit deflator and the fixed weighted indexes are due to the shift in the weights in the implicit deflator. If the composition of expenditures shifts toward those components that have increased in price at an above-average rate since the price base period of 1958, the implicit deflator increases more than a fixed weighted index. If the composition shifts in the other direction, the implicit deflator increases less than a fixed weighted index.

Strictly speaking, the implicit deflator increases more (less) than a fixed weighted price index that has as its weight base the initial or terminal period of the span being compared if there is a positive (negative) correlation between the shifts in the weights in the implicit deflator and the changes since 1958 in the component price indexes. When the fixed weighted index has another period as its weight base, the difference also depends on the shift in the composition of real GNP between the weight base period and the initial or terminal period of the span being compared.

E 23-122. General note.

Wholesale price indexes are compiled from prices in primary markets; that is, prices pertaining to the first major commercial transaction for each commodity. The quotations are usually selling prices of manufacturers or producers. A few prices are reported by trade associations and organized exchanges, and some are taken from trade publications or from other Government agencies which collect quotations as part of their regular work. They are not prices received by wholesalers, distributors, or jobbers.

In addition to the indexes presented here, brief descriptions of the coverage and calculation techniques for other indexes may be found in G. F. Warren and F. A. Pearson, *Wholesale Prices for 218 Years, 1720-1932*, Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station, *Memoir 142*, Ithaca, 1932, pp. 167-196; and in BLS Bulletin No. 284, *Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices in the United States and Foreign*

Countries, 1921, pp. 115-175. This bulletin also contains Wesley C. Mitchell's "The Making and Using of Index Numbers."

See also general note for series E 1-214.

E 23-39. Wholesale price indexes (**BLS**), by major product groups, 1890-1970.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Handbook of Labor Statistics*, 2971, Bulletin 1705, p. 276.

The current BLS wholesale price indexes were begun in 1952 but calculated to 1947, using new samples of items and new weights. However, the official index begins with January 1952, and does not replace the 1926 base series as the official index for 1947-1951. The new series of indexes was spliced to the former series (converted) by linking as of January 1947. The former group indexes were spliced with the new ones when the value aggregate of commodities in the former group represented 50 percent or more of the value of shipments in 1947 for all commodities (priced and unpriced) in the group. The index has been shown with 1967 as the base year since 1971. Prior to 1971, the 1957-59 period was the base from 1962 and the 1947-49 period from 1952 to 1961.

With the revision in 1952, the conceptual definition of the index was not altered, but major changes in coverage and methods were adopted. The list of priced commodities was expanded from 947 to approximately 1,800, embracing nearly 5,000 separate series. By 1970, the sample of priced commodities numbered approximately 2,450 and the number of separate price series totaled 7,725. The classification scheme in effect from 1952 to 1970 was revised somewhat in January 1967, providing a more meaningful and flexible structure without changing the basic concept of the structure. The 1967 scheme substituted an 8-digit coding system for the former 6- and 7-digit system permitting a number of special group indexes to be included in the regular classification of the index.

The weighting factors for each commodity represent the value of shipments for the specific commodity priced and for all others in the same group which are known (or assumed) to have price movements similar to those for the commodity priced. By this method of weighting, values for all commodities in a group are accounted for and the group automatically has its proper representation in the all-commodities index. The weight universe includes the net selling value of all commodities included in the producing and processing sector of the economy including sales for exports and imports for consumption but excluding interplant transfers, military goods, construction, real estate, transportation, securities, printing and publishing, and transactions for services.

The indexes are calculated as averages of relatives weighted by values of shipments. This is algebraically equivalent to quantity weighted aggregative indexes but allows for more flexibility in processing. As in all the official indexes, the linking process is used when there are changes in lists of commodities, changes in weighting factors, or other changes making for noncomparability. In the case of quality changes, adjustments are made to obtain month-to-month relatives for the same quality insofar as possible. If the change in description is minor, direct comparisons are made between the price of the old and the new items. For major quality changes, efforts are made to secure from the producer an estimate of the proportion of the gross price change due to quality differences and to a price change. When such information cannot be obtained, the new quality is linked into the index, thus assuming that the full price change is due to quality change.

Since the revised index was initiated in 1952, there have been four changes in the weighting factors. Value of shipments in 1952 and 1953 were introduced in 1955 and only relatively minor changes were made in the list of items priced. Another revision in the weighting factors to represent value of shipments in 1954 was introduced beginning 1958. Other revisions include introduction of 1958 value of shipments in 1961 and 1963 values in 1967. Policy has been to revise the weighting structure of the index periodically when data from industrial censuses become available, generally at 5-year intervals.

Most of the prices in the index are collected by mail directly from the manufacturer or other producer. A few are reported by trade associations or organized exchanges and some are obtained from authoritative trade publications or from other government agencies that collect price data for their regular work.

The indexes shown here are annual averages of monthly figures. Before 1952, the monthly prices used were averages of 1-day-a-week prices. From 1952 to 1966, prices were, for the most part, those of Tuesday of the week including the 15th of the month. From 1967 to 1970, the pricing date was Tuesday of the week including the 13th of the month. However, for some commodities another day may have been used as a more representative day.

Whenever possible, prices are obtained at the production point or at the central marketing point. Delivered prices are used only when it is the practice of the industry to quote prices on this basis. Prices obtained from manufacturers or other producers are subject to the applicable trade and quantity discounts. Cash discounts are deducted from the price when it is determined that most buyers avail themselves of the reduced prices. Excise taxes are excluded from the price. Closeout sales prices are usually not used. Free deals or allowances are used when possible in arriving at the net price to be used for index calculation. Nominal prices are used when they are indicative of the market situation and no other price is available.

For a more complete description of techniques used in compiling the index, see BLS Bulletin No. 1458, *Handbook of Methods for Surveys and Studies*, 1966, chap. 11.

See also general note for series E 23-122.

E 40-51. Wholesale price indexes (**BLS**), by major product groups, 1890-1951.

Source: 1890-1950, BLS, *Handbook of Labor Statistics*, 1950 edition, p. 118; 1951, 1951 supplement to the *Handbook*, p. 42.

Since 1902, when BLS began regular publication of wholesale price indexes, there have been a number of changes in lists of items, weighting factors, base periods, and methods of computing the indexes. Detailed descriptions of the early unweighted index numbers, and later the weighted indexes, are included in various annual bulletins on wholesale prices beginning with the Bulletin No. 39, issued in March 1902. The figures shown in series E 40-51 are weighted index numbers of the fixed base weighted aggregative type.

In 1914, BLS recalculated its series back to 1890 using as weights the quantity of each priced item marketed in 1909 but retained the base 1890-99. The system of classification for group indexes was generally according to origin rather than end use and each commodity was included in only one group index. For 1914-1921, the index series were continued with little change except for expanding the list of priced items and rebasing the indexes several times. In 1920 the year 1913 was adopted as the base period in order to provide a prewar standard for measuring price changes.

In 1921, a revision of the indexes extended the commodity coverage to include about 400 items as compared with 280 to 325 in previous years. The weighting factors were changed to represent the quantity of each priced item marketed in 1919. At this time an important change was made in the method of grouping commodities. Articles properly classified in more than one major group were included in the appropriate groups with their total weights but, in the all-commodities index, the weights for such articles were counted only once. In addition, a rearrangement of commodities within groups was made to provide separate indexes for 37 subgroups.

When the 1926 base period was adopted in 1927, the indexes were recalculated back to 1913 with new sets of weights (see BLS Bulletin No. 473, *Wholesale Prices, 1913 to 1927*, pp. 2-5). The figures for 1890-1912 were converted, not recalculated in detail.

In subsequent years, the weighting factors were brought up to date from time to time. Major additions to the lists of priced items in 1931 and again in 1940 provided better coverage of manufactured articles than in earlier indexes. By 1951, when these indexes were

discontinued, the number of subgroups for which separate series were available had been enlarged to 49. The indexes shown here are annual averages of monthly figures.

Because of changes in the list of commodities and in the weighting factors, the indexes were calculated by the chain relative method. In this way, comparisons between any two periods were based on the same commodities with the same weights. Throughout the whole period, the weight used for each priced commodity was the quantity marketed for that class of commodity. Classes of commodities not represented by an item in the list priced were not represented in the weighting factors.

Table I contains a summary of the number of commodities and the weights used for the indexes in series E 40.

Table I. Number of Price Series and Weighting Factors Used in BLS Wholesale Price Index (All Commodities, Series E 40): 1890 to 1951

Year	Number of series	Weights used
1949-1951	900-947	Quantities marketed 1929 and 1931
1946-1948	881-890	
1938-1939	313	Quantities marketed 1927 and 1929
1934-1937	734	
1932-1933	784	Quantities marketed 1925 and 1927
1931	784	
1930	550	Quantities marketed 1923 and 1925
1926-1929	404-550	
1924-1925	526-523	Quantities marketed 1921 and 1923
1922-1923	450-478	
1920-1921	890-450	Quantities marketed 1919 and 1921
1914-1919	296-371	
1913	252	Quantities marketed 1909 and 1914
1890-1912	251-261	

The price quotations on which the indexes were based were obtained by mail from leading manufacturers or selling agents or from such other sources as standard trade publications, reports of boards of trade, and produce exchanges. Before 1913, most of the data referred to the New York market, but after 1913, quotations were obtained in several major markets for a number of important commodities.

For articles subject to frequent fluctuations in price, monthly averages were made up of quotations for one day in each week and for a portion of the period from daily quotations. For other articles, monthly, quarterly, or semiannual quotations were secured.

Considerable attention was devoted to obtaining descriptive details so that price comparisons were based on the same or comparable commodities. By 1931, BLS had developed a specification for each commodity in the index. These specifications defined quality as precisely as possible, including the principal price-determining characteristics, terms of sale, and other details. These specifications were refined and improved over the years.

The prices used in the index were usually net cash prices, f.o.b., for the article described by the specification. Delivered prices were included only when it was customary for an industry to quote on the delivered basis.

See also general note for series E 23-122.

E 52-63. Wholesale price indexes (Warren and Pearson), by major product groups, 1749-1890.

Source: George F. Warren and Frank A. Pearson, *Prices*, John Wiley and Sons, New York, 1933, pp. 11-13, 25-27 (copyright).

The indexes are also presented in *Wholesale Prices for 213 Years, 1720-1932* (see general note, series E 23-122), *Memoir 142*, part 1, pp. 7-10 and 84-111. The "all-commodities" index for 1749-1889, converted to the base of 1926, is included in Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Bulletin No. 572, *Wholesale Prices, 1981, 1933*, appendix, pp. 111-114.

The primary aim of Warren and Pearson was to present monthly comprehensive index numbers for the 19th century corresponding

to those of BLS for 1890 and later years. The full series constitutes the longest index now available for 1720-1932. For 1890-1932, Warren and Pearson used the BLS indexes (series E 40-51) converted to the base 1910-14. Their work covered the period 1797-1890; the index was extended back to 1720 by Herman M. Stoker.

The bulk of the prices on which the index is based relate to New York City and were obtained from newspapers, supplemented with prices published in the *Report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the State of the Finances* (usually referred to as the *U. S. Finance Report*) for 1863. The number of products included in the all-items index numbers for 1797-1890 varied from a low of 113 in 1830 to 146 in 1880. For the extension back to 1720, Stoker encountered some serious gaps in the available source materials, especially for years prior to 1749. For 1720-1748, the price data were scarce and irregular, and an index could be computed only for certain months in each year. For 1749-1782, the number of commodities included generally varied from 11 to 19; and for 1783-1796, 71 series were available for most years.

The index numbers for 1797-1890 are weighted arithmetic averages of relatives, computed first on the 1876-91 base, then converted to the 1910-14 base using the relationship with BLS index numbers for 1890-1893. When one commodity was substituted for another, a linking procedure was employed. Two all-commodity indexes were prepared, one with fixed group weights throughout the whole period, and one with varying group weights. The latter is presented here as series E 52.

Separate subindexes (series E 53-63) were computed by Warren and Pearson for the 10 groups of commodities formerly used by BLS with a supplemental index for spirits. Within each group, weights representing the importance of the priced commodities in the total trade of the United States were varied over the years to represent, insofar as possible, changes in importance. (Specific mention should be made of the reduction in the importance of cotton during the Civil War period. Cotton was scarce and prices very high so weights were based on the amount available for consumption for 1861-1866 and on production for 1867-1871.) Censuses, imports, exports, and similar official figures were used as weighting factors. However, data were meager for the early years and some arbitrary weight assignments were necessary.

For 1787-1800, Stoker constructed a "71-commodity index" with the same commodity group classification and methods of calculation as those employed by Warren and Pearson. These all-commodity and group indexes were linked to the Warren-Pearson indexes. His "16-commodity index" for 1720-1787 based on the 11-19 items (practically all farm products and foods) was in turn linked to the 71-commodity index.

There are discrepancies between *Prices* and *Memoir 142* for farm products (series E 53) for 1807, 1808, and 1827. The figures shown in series E 53 are averages of monthly data in *Memoir 142*.

E 64-72. Wholesale price indexes (BLS), by durability of product, 1947-1970.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Handbook of Labor Statistics, 1971*, Bulletin 1705, p. 285.

These indexes were constructed by recombining commodity segments of the regular BLS Wholesale Price Index according to durability. The basic weights, the price data, and the calculation methods were the same as for the regular indexes (see text for series E 23-39). The commodity groups included in each of these special indexes are listed in BLS Bulletins, *Wholesale Prices and Price Indexes*, annually for 1957-1963, and in *Wholesale Prices and Price Indexes* for January 1967 (final) and February 1967 (final).

Manufactured commodities were generally classified on the same basis as that used by the Federal Reserve Board for its Index of Industrial Production. The classification of the "raw or slightly processed goods" was based for the most part on that used by Frederick C. Mills in *Prices in Recession and Recovery*, National Bureau of Economic Research, New York, 1936, pp. 472-474.

E 73-86. Wholesale price indexes (BLS), for economic sectors, by stage of processing, 1913-1970.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1913-1946, Bulletin 1235, *Wholesale Prices and Price Indexes*, 1957, p. 26 (these series on a 1926 base appear in the following publications: 1913-1941, *Handbook of Labor Statistics*, 1941 edition, p. 733; 1942-1946, Bulletin 947, *Wholesale Prices*, 1947, p. 6); 1947-1970, Bulletin 1705, *Handbook of Labor Statistics*, 1971, p. 286.

Although the basic weights, the price data, and the calculation methods for these indexes were the same as those used for the regular indexes, the series shown comprise two parts, one for 1903-1946 and the second for 1947-1970. Prior to the revision of the regular Wholesale Price Index (WPI) in 1952 (which was carried back to 1947), each commodity in the WPI was classified in one of three groups: Raw, semimanufactured, or manufactured. The prices were weighted using quantities as specified for series E 40-51. The list of commodities included in each classification is shown in BLS Bulletin 473, p. 62.

The more refined economic sector classification used for 1947-1970 required adjustments to these procedures. Many commodities were considered to fall appropriately in more than one category. For 1947-1966, the base weight for each such article was, therefore, distributed among the economic sectors on the basis of percentage distributions by end use, derived from the BLS interindustry studies for 1947. From 1967 to 1970, the 1958 interindustry study of the Commerce Department's Office of Business Economics was used as a guide. The same price series was used in several sectors when a commodity was classified in more than one sector. It was recognized that this procedure had some disadvantages, but it was believed to have little effect on the measurement of price trend.

In splicing the two parts, the index for "raw materials" was considered as most nearly comparable with the new "crude materials for further processing"; "semimanufactured" with "intermediate materials, supplies, and components"; and "manufactured" with "finished goods."

E 87-89. Wholesale price indexes (BLS), by 2 levels of processing, for identical commodities, 1890-1926.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Bulletin No. 440, *Wholesale Prices, 1890 to 1926*, pp. 28-29, 1926.

These series were calculated for the first time in 1915, were extended back to 1890, and continued through 1926. The items in each of the indexes were selected from those included in the BLS regular wholesale price index (see series E 40). The indexes are fixed weight aggregative indexes, derived by weighting the price series with the estimated quantity of each article marketed in 1919. Similar figures for 1890-1914 on the 1914 base, using 1909 quantity weights may be found in BLS Bulletin No. 181, *Wholesale Prices, 1890-1914*, pp. 28-29.

E 90-122. General note.

The inadequacy of the available statistics on commodity-price and wage movements over long periods of time led to the formation of the International Scientific Committee on Price History in 1929. In the United States, the attention of this Committee was directed to providing long series of prices for important commodities for pre-Civil War years. Price history research was initiated or expanded for 6 important markets—Philadelphia, Charleston, S.C., Cincinnati, New Orleans, New York City, and Boston. Information is presented here only for the first 4 of these markets.

The results of the investigations in all 6 areas were summarized in the form of wholesale price index numbers by the individual research directors and presented by Arthur H. Cole in *Wholesale Commodity Prices in the United States, 1700 to 1861*, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, 1938. A statistical supplement to Cole's report contains the actual monthly quotations for approximately 45 commodities for the years covered in each market.

The source materials for the price data included newspapers, mer-

chants price lists, account books, and similar records that could be located. Differences in the availability of price and weighting data from area to area contributed to differences in the indexes derived, particularly with respect to the appropriate base periods, the length of the series, and the classifications of commodities for subindexes.

E 90-96. Wholesale price indexes (Taylor), for Charleston, S.C., 1732-1861.

Source: Arthur H. Cole, *Wholesale Commodity Prices in the United States, 1700-1861*, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, 1938, pp. 153, 155-157, and 159-167 (copyright).

See also articles by George Rogers Taylor, "Wholesale Commodity Prices at Charleston, S. C., 1732-1791," *Journal of Economic History*, February 1932, pp. 356-377, and "Wholesale Commodity Prices at Charleston, S.C., 1796-1861," August 1932 supplement to the *Journal*, pp. 848-868.

See also general note for series E 90-122.

Taylor's research in commodity prices was summarized in separate index numbers for 8 different periods. The choice of time periods was made partly to reflect business conditions in Charleston and partly to take account of availability of data. Newspapers and original manuscript materials produced price series for a maximum of 32 items for 1818-1842 and a minimum of 6 for 1732-1747. Gaps were relatively frequent and no quotations at all appeared for 1792-1795.

Indexes for each period were weighted arithmetic averages of price relatives, with weights representing the approximate importance of each commodity in South Carolina commerce. The weights were unchanged for all years within each time period but were changed from period to period. An all-commodities series was made up of prices for 6 articles for 1732-1747, 10 articles for 1748-1761, and 16 articles for 1762-1775. In each period, rice represented 50 to 64 percent of the total weight. For the 5 later time intervals, weighted sub-indexes were combined with group weights based on the following total number of price series: 1780-1791, 20; 1796-1812, 18; 1813-1822, 13; 1818-1842, 32; 1843-1861, 20. During these years, the importance of rice declined from about 37 percent of the total weight to 5 to 7 percent, while the importance of cotton increased from zero in 1791 to almost 36 percent in 1843-1861.

The all-commodity series (E 90) was obtained by splicing the indexes for the separate periods.

E 97-110. Wholesale price indexes (Bezanson), for Philadelphia, unweighted geometric average, 1784-1861.

Source: Anne Bezanson, Robert D. Gray, and Miriam Hussey, *Wholesale Prices in Philadelphia, 1784-1861*, part I, Industrial Research Study No. 29, Philadelphia, 1936, p. 392. (Copyright, University of Pennsylvania; reprinted by permission.)

See also general note for series E 90-122.

Records of prices for Philadelphia provided continuous price reports for 186 series covering 140 different commodities for 1784-1861 and 205 series for 157 commodities for 1819-1861. Monthly relative prices for the individual commodities and changes in the description of the commodities quoted are included in part II of the source, published as Industrial Research Study No. 30. Bezanson and her associates have also computed indexes for 1852-1896, corresponding to those for the earlier part of the century, which are available in a Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) pamphlet, *Wholesale Price Indexes for Philadelphia, 1852-96: Annual Group Totals*.

Indexes for all commodities and for subindexes using different modes of classification were computed as unweighted geometric averages of price relatives. Two all-commodities indexes were prepared, one based on 140 commodities (series E 97) and one for a more limited period for 157 commodities.

In addition to the subindexes selected for inclusion here, other subindexes for commodity groupings generally comparable to those of the BLS were also calculated. All indexes are available on a monthly basis.

E 111. Wholesale price indexes (Bezanson), for Philadelphia, unweighted arithmetic average, 1720-1861.

Source: See source for series E 97-110.

For the colonial period, Bezanson and her associates obtained some price data for 82 series. Because of the gaps in the data, however, indexes for the early years were based on prices for many fewer commodities.

Indexes for 1720-1861 were computed as unweighted arithmetic averages of relatives of prices for the same 12 commodities for the full period. The source also includes an unweighted geometric index of 20 commodities for 1731-1861.

E 112-114. Wholesale price indexes (Berry), for Cincinnati, 1816-1861.

Source: Series E 112, 1816-1860, Arthur H. Cole, *Wholesale Commodity Prices in the United States, 1700-1861*, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, 1938, p. 185 (averages of the monthly data were computed from the source); 1861, estimated by Ethel Hoover from series E 113 and E 114 with weights shown in Cole (cited above), p. 81. Series E 113-114, Thomas S. Berry, *Western Prices Before 1861*, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, 1943, p. 564. (Copy-right.)

See also general note for series E 90-122.

These indexes were weighted arithmetic averages of price relatives, computed for 3 separate time periods which were spliced to obtain the continuous series. For 1816-1825, prices for 21 commodities were assembled, 13 "identified with northern agriculture" and 8 "not identified with northern agriculture." For 1824-1846, the total was 37 with 20 in the first category and 17 in the second. For 1846-1861, the total was 50, with 29 for northern agriculture, and 21 for other. The weighting factors for the first period were estimated from New Orleans receipts in 1825, while those for the 2 later periods were based on receipts at Cincinnati for 1845-1848 and 1852-1856. Berry's analysis is accompanied by many tabulations of supplementary data, including actual prices for individual articles.

E 115-117. Wholesale price indexes (Berry), for Ohio River Valley, 1788-1817.

Source: Thomas S. Berry, *Western Prices Before 1861*, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, 1943, pp. 563-564 (copyright).

See also general note for E 90-122.

In his study of Cincinnati prices, Berry encountered considerable difficulty in obtaining price information for years before 1816. He enlarged his geographical coverage for the market to include Lexington and Louisville, Ky., and Pittsburgh, Pa., and was successful in constructing 14 commodity price series for 1788-1816 from data in "account books of backwoods merchants" and from local journals.

The indexes were computed as unweighted averages of price relatives. The annual prices used to obtain the relatives were medians of all Ohio Valley quotations for each item each year.

E 118-122. Wholesale price indexes (Taylor), for New Orleans, 1800-1861.

Source: Arthur H. Cole, *Wholesale Commodity Prices in the United States, 1700-1861*, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, 1938, pp. 170-179 (copyright),

See also general note for series E 90-122.

A considerable difference was found in the volume of information available for New Orleans from decade to decade. Therefore, New Orleans indexes were prepared for 4 separate time periods. Data for 8 commodities, primarily agricultural, were combined into an index for "Louisiana" products for 1800-1812 (July). For a part of this period, 1804-1812 (April), 2 series were constructed, 1 for

29 domestic products and the other for 15 imported goods. For 2 later periods, the volume of data was sufficient to set up 3 sub-indexes, classifying the commodities by origin. The number of articles included was: For 1815-1842, 5 Louisiana products, 34 other domestic products, and 11 foreign imports; for 1840-1861, the corresponding numbers of articles were 4, 37, and 8.

All of the index numbers were calculated using the method of weighted averages of relatives. The weights in the several time periods represented the importance of the various commodities in the trade of New Orleans.

The all-commodities index (series E 118) was obtained by splicing the "all-commodities" indexes for the different periods.

E 123-134. General note.

The wholesale prices for selected commodities from 1800 through 1970 provide an indication of price levels (in current dollars) for selected basic commodities at a particular point in time. Due to the changes in descriptions (specifications) for the commodities, in markets from which prices were obtained, in quality of the product which takes place over time, and other factors which affect prices, these series provide only a general indication of price trends.

From among the several hundred commodities for which wholesale prices have been published in various reports, 12 were selected for publication in the form of actual prices. Generally, consideration was given to representation of commodities in different product groups, importance in U.S. trade, and the length of the series available.

The descriptions for each commodity insofar as they could be determined and the sources from which the prices were compiled are shown below in the detailed notes for each series. When annual averages were not available in the original source, they were computed for this publication. If 12 monthly figures were presented, a simple average was calculated, but if only quarterly figures were given, straight line interpolation was used to estimate missing months.

It was not possible to obtain one continuously comparable series for the full period. The data were assembled from several sources for each commodity and there were, frequently, changes in the basis of quotation even in the same source. Two prices are shown for years in which a change in the series occurred, if it was possible to obtain the information. In some series, mostly prior to 1890, changes in the basis of quotation occurred and no overlapping prices were available. Such changes are noted below in the text for each series.

Prices for earlier years for some commodities are available in the same sources as those indicated for 1800, and in other publications. Because of limitations of time and space, however, figures prior to 1800 were not included in this chapter. For example, prices of wheat back to 1700 may be found in the publication by Cole, cited as the source for wheat prices for 1800-1825. Wheat prices in the New England colonies at 10-year intervals for 1630-1750 are included with prices for several other commodities in Bureau of Labor Statistics Bulletin 604, *History of Wages in the United States From Colonial Times to 1928*, p. 19.

The *Annual Report of the Director of the Mint*, cited as the source for practically all series for some part of the period 1825-1880, was used despite the lack of commodity descriptions. The prices included in this report were summaries of the New York prices included in the *U.S. Finance Reports* of 1863, 1873, and 1874 which had been compiled from the newspaper, *The New York Shipping and Commercial List*. Prices for 1875-1880 were also compiled from this source. Such descriptions as appear in the notes for each series of prices taken from *U.S. Finance Reports* were obtained from the report for 1863.

An alternate source for many of the price series included in the *Aldrich Reports* (cited for data prior to 1890) is *Monthly Summary of Commerce and Finance in the United States*, 57th Congress, 2d Session, House Doc. No. 15, part 1, 1902, pp. 59-100. The *Summary* covers not only the years included in the *Aldrich Report*, but also extends the data through July 1902.

E 123. Wheat, 1800-1970.

Source: A.—1800-1825, Arthur H. Cole, *Wholesale Commodity Prices in the United States, 1700-1861*, Statistical Supplement, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, 1938 (copyright); B.—1825-1880, *Annual Report of the Director of the Mint to the Secretary of the Treasury for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1881*, p. 50; C.—1880-1890, *Wholesale Prices, Wages, and Transportation*, Senate Report No. 1394, 52d Congress, 2d Session, part 2, 1893, p. 61 (one of the reports usually referred to as the *Aldrich Reports*); D.—1890-1970, compiled from Bureau of Labor Statistics reports and records. In general, annual average prices, when available, were taken from annual reports, *Wholesale Prices and Price Indexes*, through the year 1963. Thereafter, annual average prices were computed from monthly prices as published in monthly reports, *Wholesale Prices and Price Indexes*.

For 1800-1825, prices are for Philadelphia (commodity description not available). For 1825-1880, prices are for New York, "Northern" wheat; the *1863 U.S. Finance Report* (from which these prices were partially compiled) shows prices for "genesee" for these years, 1825-1863, but for a few years prices refer to "North River," "prime white," "western," "western red," or "mixed and red." For 1880-1890, prices are for "wheat No. 2, Winter, Chicago." For 1890-1913, prices are for Chicago "Range No. 1 Northern Spring and No. 2 Red Winter" in carlots. For 1913-1948, prices are for Kansas City, "No. 2, hard (ordinary)" in carlots. For 1949-1961, prices are for Kansas City, "No. 2, hard winter, closing spot market price, carlots, f.o.b. track." From 1962 to 1970, prices are for Kansas City, "No. 1, hard winter."

See also general note for series E 123-134.

E 124. Wheat flour, 1800-1970.

Source: See sources cited for series E 123; 1800-1825, source A; 1825-1870, source B; 1870-1890, source C, p. 79; 1890-1970, source D.

For 1800-1825, prices are for Philadelphia, "Superfine" flour, per barrel of 196 pounds. For 1825-1870, prices are for New York, "Superfine" flour, per barrel. For 1870-1890, prices were provided by a New York firm (commodity description not available). For 1890-1913, prices are for "winter straights, f.o.b., New York," per barrel. For 1913-1943, prices are for "Straights, hard winter, white, in carlots, f.o.b., Kansas City," per barrel. During 1943, the basis of quotation was changed from per barrel to flour in sacks, per 100 pounds. For 1950-1970, prices are for "hard winter, bakery, short patents, plain or enriched, in 100-pound sacks, carlots, f.o.b. mill, Kansas City," per 100 pounds. During 1918 and a part of 1946, prices were quoted on the standard provided under government regulation.

See also general note for series E 123-134.

E 125. Sugar, 1800-1970.

Source: See sources for series E 123; 1800-1825, source A; 1825-1860, source B; 1860-1890, source C, p. 114; 1890-1970, source D.

For 1800-1825, prices are for the Philadelphia market. Prices for 1800 refer to "Muscovado, brown"; 1801-1802 (Oct.), "Muscovado"; 1802 (Nov.)-1813 (Oct.), "Muscovado, first quality"; 1813 (Nov.)-1815 (Apr.), "Muscovado, unspecified"; 1815 (May)-1825, "Muscovado, prime." For 1825-1860, prices are for New York, "Cuba" sugar; the *1863 U.S. Finance Report* (from which the data were compiled) quoted "Muscovado" for 1825-1829 and 1845-1860, "Cuba Muscovado" for 1830-1836 and "Cuba" for 1837-1844. For 1860-1890, prices are for "Refined, granulated" sugar (no market specified). For 1890-1946, prices are for New York, "Granulated" sugar. Prices were quoted for sugar in barrels until 1955 when the basis of quotation was changed to 100-pound paper bags. For 1947-1970, the description was amplified to "granulated, domestic, cane, refined, New York," per pound. Prices for 1934-1970 include the excise tax of 53½ cents per 100 pounds, effective in May 1934.

See also general note for series E 123-134.

E 126. Cotton, raw, 1800-1970.

Source: 1800-1890, Mathew B. Hammond, *The Cotton Industry, an Essay in American Economic History*, American Economic Association, New Series No. I, Macmillan, New York, 1897, p. 358; 1890-1970, see source D for series E 123.

For 1800-1890, prices refer to "Middling uplands" cotton for the New York market and are available back to 1790. For 1800-1820, prices are estimates made by merchants or government officials. For 1821-1890, prices were taken from James L. Watkin, *Production and Price of Cotton for One Hundred Years*, published by the Department of Agriculture, 1895. For 1890-1941, prices are for New York, "Upland, Middling" cotton, spot. In 1936, "7/8 inch" was added to the description. For 1941-1954 (July), prices are for "Middling, 15/16 inch," 10 spot market average. For 1954 (July)-1956 (Aug.), the number of markets included in the average was increased from 10 to 14. The July 1954 average for 10 markets was \$0.342 per pound and for 14 markets, \$0.341 per pound. For 1956 (Aug.)-1957, prices are for "Middling, 1-inch," 14 spot market average. In Aug. 1956, the average for 15/16-inch staple was \$0.348 per pound and for 1-inch staple \$0.357 per pound. Beginning Sept. 1962, prices are for 15-market average. Beginning July 1968, prices are for "1½ middling," 12 spot market average.

See also general note for series E 123-134.

E 127. Wool, 1813-1970.

Source: See sources cited for series E 123; 1813-1825, source A; 1825-1850, source B, p. 60; 1850-1890, source C, p. 387; 1890-1970, source D.

For 1813-1825, prices are for Philadelphia, "Merino clean" wool except for 1819 and 1820 when description was "Merino" wool. For 1825-1850, prices are for New York, "Merino" wool. For 1850-1890, prices are for Boston, "Ohio, fine fleece, scoured." For 1890-1913, prices are for, "Domestic, Ohio, fine fleece (x and xx grades), scoured"; for 1913-1945, for Boston, "Domestic, Territory, staple, fine and fine medium, scoured"; for 1946-1949 for Boston, "Domestic, Territory, staple, fine combing, graded, scoured." For 1950-1970, the description was changed with no difference in price level to "Domestic, fine, good French combing and staple, clean basis."

See also general note for series E 123-134.

E 128. Cotton sheeting, 1800-1969.

Source: See sources cited for series E 123; 1800-1847, source A; 1847-1890, source C, p. 155; 1890-1969, source D.

Prices are for Philadelphia, "Russian, unspecified" for 1800-1804, "Russian, brown" for 1805-1814 and 1824-1847, and "Russian, half bleached" for 1815-1823. Prices were shown "per piece" (approximately 100 yards). For 1847-1890, prices are for "sheeting, brown, 4-4, Atlantic A," per yard (no market specified). For 1890-1912, prices are for "brown, Indian head, 4-4, 2.85 yards to pound, factory." For 1913-1941, description same except that the width designation was changed in 1913 to "36-inch" instead of "4-4," and "48×48, carded yarn" was added in 1923. For 1941-1943 (May), prices are for "Unbleached, 36-inch, 48×48, 2.85 yards per pound, Class A, non-feeler, f.o.b. mill." For 1943 (May)-1947, description same except for change from "48×48" to "48×44." For 1948-1969, prices are for "Unbleached (series 1), 40-inch, 48×48, 2.85 yards per pound, Class A, nonfeeler, f.o.b. mill." The January 1948 price for the former description (36-inch, 48×44) was \$0.279 and for the new description (40-inch, 48×48) was \$0.289 per pound.

See also general notes for series E 123-134.

E 129. Coal, anthracite, 1800-1970.

Source: See sources cited for series E 123; 1800-1825, source A; 1825-1833, source B; 1890-1970, source D. For 1833-1890, Amer-

ican Iron and Steel Association, *Statistics of the American and Foreign Iron Trades for 1896*, Philadelphia, 1897, p. 91.

Prices are for Philadelphia, "Virginia" coal for 1800-1811 and 1814-1825, and "Domestic" for 1812 and 1813. There was no description for 1826-1833. For 1825-1833, prices are for New York, "anthracite coal (Schuylkill)." For 1833-1890, prices are for "Schuylkill white ash lump" coal, by the cargo, at Philadelphia, per gross ton. For 1890-1970, prices are for "Pennsylvania anthracite, chestnut," but the basis of quotation was changed several times. For 1890-1928, the basis was "New York Tidewater," per gross ton; for 1928-1931, "destination on tracks," per gross ton; for 1931-1947, per net ton (2000 pounds); and 1947-1970, "f.o.b. cars" per net ton.

See also general note for series E 123-134.

E 130. Steel rails, 1847-1970.

Source: 1847-1890, American Metal Market and Daily Iron and Steel Report, *Metal Statistics*, 1921, p. 91. (Reprinted with permission of American Metal Market, Fairchild Publications, Inc., N.Y., N.Y., copyright.) For 1891-1970, see source D for series E 123.

For 1847-1867, prices are for "Iron rails, Eastern Pennsylvania mill" (production of steel rails did not exceed production of iron rails until 1877). The source also shows prices of iron rails of this description for 1868-1882. For 1867-1870, prices are for New York "Steel rails, Bessemer," per gross ton. For 1871-1890, prices are for "Steel rails, Pennsylvania mill." For 1891-1913, prices are for "Bessemer, Standard, f.o.b. mill, Pittsburgh," per long ton; for 1913-1946, for "Open hearth, standard, f.o.b. mill"; for 1947-1953 (April), for "Standard, heavier than 60 pounds, No. 1 open hearth, f.o.b. mill" (refinement of previous specification and quoted per 100 pounds—no break in series); thereafter, for "Standard, carbon steel, No. 1 open hearth, 115 pounds per linear yard, control cooled, base quantity, f.o.b. mill."

See also general note for series E 123-134.

E 131. Nails, 1800-1969.

Source: See sources cited for series E 123; 1800-1828, source A; 1828-1834, source B, p. 54; 1890-1969, source D. For 1835-1890, see source for series E 129, 1833-1890, p. 87. (For 1835-1849, prices were compiled from the *Report of the Secretary of the Treasury*, 1849; for 1850-1859, by the American Iron and Steel Association from the books of the Duncannon Iron Company; and for 1860-1890, by an official of the Duncannon Iron Company.)

For 1800-1828, prices are for the Philadelphia market. For 1814-1827, prices are for "Cut nails, all sizes"; for other years, "assorted sizes." For 1828-1834, prices are for New York, "Nails, cut." For 1835-1890, prices are for "Cut nails." For 1890-1953, prices refer to "wire, 8 penny, fence and common, 100-pound keg, f.o.b. Pittsburgh." "Base price" was added to the description in 1926 and fence nails were not included after 1947. For 1953-1959, prices refer to "wire, carbon steel 8d, common, carload lots, f.o.b. mill." The April 1953 price for the former specification was \$7.41, and for the new specification, \$7.33 per 100 pounds. "Packed in fiberboard boxes" was added to the description for 1955. "Carload lots" was changed to "in lots of 30,000 lb. or over" in Oct. 1960. Change was not considered to affect comparability of prices before or after.

See also general note for series E 123-134.

E 132. Copper, 1800-1969.

Source: See sources cited for series E 123; 1800-1825, source A; 1825-1860, source B, p. 52; 1890-1970, source D. For 1860-1889, see source for series E 130, 1847-1890, p. 299.

For 1800-1825, prices are for the Philadelphia market. Prices are for "Copper in sheets," 1800-1801 (Apr.) and 1805 (June)-1809 (June); "Sheathing unspecified," 1801 (May)-1802 (Dec.), 1809 (July)-1818 (Apr.), and 1824 (Sept.)-1825; "Sheathing, cold rolled,"

1803-1805 (May); and "Sheathing unspecified," 1818 (May)-1824 (Aug.). For 1825-1860, prices are for New York, "Sheathing." For 1860-1889, prices are for New York, "Lake Copper." The price shown for 1890 is the same as that in *Metal Statistics*, 1921. For 1890-1907, prices are for New York, "Lake Copper"; for 1907-1927, for "Copper ingot, electrolytic, early delivery, refinery in New York"; for 1927-1953, for "Copper, electrolytic, delivered, Connecticut Valley"; and for 1954-1969, for "Copper ingot, electrolytic."

See also general note for series E 123-134.

E 133. Turpentine, 1800-1969.

Source: See sources cited for series E 123; 1800-1825, source A; 1825-1840, source B, p. 56; 1840-1890, source C, p. 240; 1890-1969, source D.

For 1800-1825, prices are for the Philadelphia market, per barrel (31% gallons per barrel). No description was available, but a comparison of prices indicates that they may be for "soft" turpentine. For 1825-1840, prices are for the New York market (no description is available). For 1840-1890, prices are for New York, "Spirits of turpentine." For 1890-1942, prices are for "Southern, barrels, at New York." The description was amplified in 1936 by the addition of "carlots, ex dock, gum spirits." For 1942-1951, prices refer to "Gum spirits, bulk, f.o.b. Savannah, Ga." For 1952-1956 (Oct.), quotations are for "Spirits of turpentine, tank cars, at New York." The Jan. 1952 price for the former specification (Savannah) was \$0.80 per gallon and for the new (New York), \$0.76 per gallon. For 1956 (Nov.)-1958 (Jan.) prices are for "gum, tank cars" at New York. For 1959 (Mar.)-1969 prices are for carlots or truckload quantities f.o.b. car or trucks at processing plants in Georgia and Florida. "Midpoint of range for week" was added in 1961.

See also general note for series E 123-134.

E 134. Brick, 1849-1969.

Source: See sources cited for series E 123; 1849-1890, source C, p. 222; 1890-1969, source D.

For 1849-1890, prices are for "common domestic building" (market not indicated). For 1890-1933, prices are for "Common, Red, Domestic, at New York"; 1933-1947, for "Common building, f.o.b. plant" (composite of approximately 50 firms); for 1947-1961, for "Building brick, f.o.b. plant or New York dock" (composite of approximately 25 firms); and for 1962-1969, for "Building brick, f.o.b. plant." Changes in list of firms from time to time did not result in any significant differences in the annual average prices.

See also general note for series E 123-134.

E 135-186. General note.

An appropriate name for indexes of retail price changes has been the subject of considerable discussion. Most indexes that have at some time been called "cost-of-living" indexes measure changes in retail prices for the goods and services families buy. Insofar as possible, the retail prices are for the same list of items in the same localities, the same qualities, and the same quantities from one period to the next. The indexes, therefore, measure changes in costs for living in the same way and in the same place.

Generally, people tend to think of the amount of money they spend for commodities and services as their cost of living. Changes in total expenditures reflect changes in costs resulting from differences in the place or manner of living, such as shifts in the kinds of goods and services bought, and may represent a better or a worse standard than at some earlier date.

The term "Consumer Price Index" was adopted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the National Industrial Conference Board after much controversy during World War II regarding the BLS *Cost of Living Index*. For a discussion of differences in concept and measurement of the cost of living, see the *Report of the President's Committee on Cost of Living*, Office of Economic Stabilization, 1945.

E 135-166. Consumer price indexes (BLS)—all items, 1800 to 1970, and by groups, 1913-1970.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), 1800-1912, series E 135 only, *Handbook of Labor Statistics 1973*, Bulletin 1790; 1913-1970, *Consumer Price Indexes for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers*; U.S. *City Averages* (1967=100), Historical Series A through I.

See also general note for series E 135-186.

The BLS Consumer Price Index measures changes in retail prices of the goods and services bought by city wage earners and clerical workers. The indexes from 1800 through 1912 are estimates, based on price data from sources other than BLS. It was originated on a comprehensive basis at the end of World War I when data were in demand for wage negotiations in shipbuilding cities. A Department of Labor study of the cost of living in 92 shipbuilding and other industrial centers was made in 1918-19, as reported in BLS Bulletin 357, *Cost of Living in the United States*. The first publication of changes in the "cost of living" was in the BLS *Monthly Labor Review* for October 1919 and regular publication has continued since February 1921. The frequency of publication was increased from semiannually to quarterly in 1935. Since September 1940, the index has been computed and published monthly. The index is published each month in a press release, a detailed report, and in the *Monthly Labor Review*. The indexes shown here are annual averages.

All retail price data are collected with the use of specifications to ensure comparisons from period to period of prices for the same or similar qualities insofar as possible. These specifications include the quality factors associated with price differences and other physical characteristics needed for identification from store to store and from one pricing period to the next. A discussion of the use of specifications is contained in BLS Bulletin 1182, *Average Retail Prices: Collection and Calculation Techniques and Problems*. Every effort is made to obtain the prices paid by the customer, not list prices from which discounts normally are given. Sales, excise, and other taxes related to the purchase or continued ownership of consumer goods and services are reflected wherever applicable.

A number of changes in coverage, method, classification, and base periods have been made since these indexes were first issued in 1919 with index numbers back to 1913. Until 1935, the "cost-of-living" indexes were calculated using quantity weights derived from the BLS family expenditure study in 1917-19. The weights related to the individual items priced and to geographic areas rather than to individual cities. Group indexes were combined with percentages representing the importance of the group in total expenditures. The goods and services included were described in general terms only. The measurement of price change for comparable articles was accomplished by careful attention on the part of the field representative in obtaining price quotations for the same quality from one period to the next from the same respondents.

A major improvement in the index calculation method was introduced in 1935 and is described in Faith M. Williams, Margaret H. Hogg, and Ewan Clague, "Revision of Index of Cost of Goods Purchased by Wage Earners and Lower-Salaried Workers," *Monthly Labor Review*, September 1936, pp. 819-837. In the 1935 revision, consumption weights for individual cities were derived from the 1917-19 expenditure study, and population weights (average population in 1920 and 1930) were used to combine city data. At this time, indexes back to 1913 were recalculated based on the prices collected for the former indexes. "Specification pricing" was also introduced in 1935; see John H. Cover, *Retail Price Behavior*, University of Chicago Press, 1935.

Another revision was completed in 1940 to take into account the results of a study of family expenditures in 1934-36. At this time, indexes back to 1935 were recalculated with weights derived from this study. Indexes for earlier years were not recalculated completely, but the former group indexes were recombined with revised weights. Other improvements introduced are described in the

Table II. Number of Cities Included in BLS Consumer Price Index (CPI) for All Items (E 135) and for Foods (E 136-137), and Weights Used: 1913 to 1970

Period	Number of cities		Weights used	
1918-1917	19	40-45	1917-19	none
1918-1924	32	46-51	1917-19	1920 and 1930
1925-1980	32	51	1917-19	1920 and 1930
			1 1934-36	
1980-1984	33	51	1 1934-36	1930
1985-1942	33-34	56-64	1934-36	1930
1943-1949	34	56	1934-36	May 1942
1950-1952	34	56	2 1947-49	1950
1953-1963	46	46	3 1950	1950
1964-1965	50	50	4 1960-61	1960
1966-1970	56	56	5 1960-61	1960

¹ Individual item weights for 1918-1935 were derived from the 1917-19 study. Group weights as shown.

² Family expenditures in 7 cities. ³ Adjusted to 1952 for price change.

⁴ Adjusted to 1963 for price change. ⁵ Adjusted to 1965 for price change.

Bureau of Labor Statistics' New Index of Cost of Living, Serial No. R. 1156, reprinted from the August 1940 issue of the *Monthly Labor Review*.

During World War II, shortages and rationing imposed many measurement problems. The adjustments made by BLS in weights and in pricing are described in Faith M. Williams, "Bureau of Labor Statistics Cost of Living Index in Wartime," *Monthly Labor Review*, July 1943.

Before the comprehensive revision in 1953, when numerous changes in index procedures and coverage were introduced, an "interim adjustment" was made in 1951. This adjustment included a correction for "new unit bias" in the rent index (resulting from wartime rent controls) for 1940-1950 and the introduction of revised commodity weights based on expenditure surveys in 7 cities during 1947-1949. The revised commodity weights were used to recalculate indexes back to 1950 but not earlier years. A description of the adjustment is in BLS Bulletin 1039, *Interim Adjustment of Consumer Price Index*. The "interim adjustment" resulted in the publication of two index series for 1940-1952—the "old series" and the "adjusted series." When the comprehensive revision was completed in 1953, the revised indexes were linked to the "adjusted series."

In the 1953 revision, the city sample was changed to include small and medium-sized cities and the expenditure concept was broadened to include the purchase price of a house. (See February and April 1956 issues of *Monthly Labor Review* for a discussion of housing costs in the CPI.) Pricing of restaurant meals and home repair and maintenance items was begun and several other items were added. Items were regrouped into 8 major groups.

A later revision of the CPI was completed in 1963 and incorporated into the historical index series in 1964. The revised index is based on prices of about 400 goods and services; the goods and services priced for the index were chosen to represent price trends for all goods and services bought by families of urban wage earners and clerical workers. The selection was made on the basis of a detailed study of expenditures of 4,912 urban wage earner and clerical worker families and 585 single workers in 1960-61. The probability an item had of being selected for pricing in the index was proportional to its importance in index-family consumption expenditures in the 1960-61 base period. The average size of the families covered by the index was estimated to be about 3.7 persons and their average family income after taxes was estimated at about \$6,250 in 1960-61.

In 1966, the CPI program was extended to six additional large areas as a result of a decision that indexes would be published for all standard metropolitan statistical areas (SMSA's) having a population of 1 million or more in 1960. Currently (1973), the sample of 56 areas on which the national index is based was chosen to represent all urban places that have population of 2,500 or more in 1960, including Alaska and Hawaii. Prices for foods and fuels and some other

goods and services are obtained monthly in all cities. Prices for most other goods and services are obtained monthly in the 5 largest areas and every three months in the remaining 51 SMSA's or small urban places. Rents are surveyed bimonthly in the 5 largest areas and every 3 months in other areas. Separate indexes are computed for 23 large areas. A comprehensive discussion of these and other improvements is contained in BLS Bulletin 1517, *The Consumer Price Index: History and Techniques*.

Food prices are obtained from about 1,800 food stores, including all important types of food retailers in each city. Rent figures are collected from tenants for approximately 40,000 rental units selected from block listings of the total rental housing market in each city. Prices for other goods and services are obtained from about 16,000 retail and service establishments patronized by wage earner and clerical families and including department stores, specialty shops, etc., with a minimum of 4 quotations per item per SMSA or urban place in most cases. Retail stores and service establishments are stratified by type of outlet and by area of the SMSA, i.e., central business district, neighborhood, and suburban pricing areas.

Price collection for the majority of goods and services is made by personal visit of BLS field representatives. Food prices are collected by local agents; for some items mail or telephone collection is supplemented by occasional personal visits.

The indexes are calculated using a variation of the base quantity weighted index formula. In practice, the aggregates are obtained by applying price relatives to "value weights" representing the cost of 1960-61 quantities as determined from the 1960-61 Consumer Expenditure Survey. The base period importance of an item selected with certainty for pricing in the index represents the annual average expenditure made for the item by the index population in the 1960-61 period. The base period importance of other items represents the expenditure made for that item and in addition a "pro rata" share of the weight of items not selected for pricing. Indexes for individual areas are computed using the expenditure weights for each area. National indexes are calculated by combining area data with weights representing 1960 population.

The standard reference base of the Consumer Price Index presented here is 1967=100. The index was changed to this base from its previous base of 1957-59=100 effective with release of the index for January 1971. The official standard reference base of the CPI was 1957-59=100 from 1962 through 1970, 1947-49=100 from 1953 through 1961, 1935-39=100 from 1940 through 1982, 1923-25=100 from 1935 through 1939, and 1913=100 from 1913 through 1934.

For a more complete description of the Consumer Price Index, see *Handbook of Methods for Surveys and Studies*, BLS Bulletin 1458, Chapter 10, or BLS Bulletin 1517 cited above.

See also general note for series E 135-186.

E 167-173. Consumer price indexes (BLS), for special groups, 1935-1970.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1971 *Handbook of Labor Statistics*, p. 255.

These indexes are based on a reclassification of the items priced for the Consumer Price Indexes (series E 135-166). The basic weights, price data, and calculation methods were the same as those used for the regular CPI. For a more complete description of the index, see BLS Bulletin 1517 cited above (E 135-166).

See also general note for series E 135-186.

E 174-182. Consumer price index (Hoover), 1851-1880.

Source: Ethel D. Hoover, "Prices in the 19th Century," *Studies in Income and Wealth*, vol. 24, 1960, National Bureau of Economic Research, New York (copyright).

See also general note for series E 135-186.

The basic price data for these series are from Joseph D. Weeks, "The Average Retail Prices of Necessaries of Life," *Report on Statistics of Wages in Manufacturing Industries*, Tenth Census, vol. 20,

1886. Averages of retail prices for 58 commodities were calculated by making simple averages of the prices reported for each item by one or two storekeepers in approximately 40 cities. The consistency of price movement and price level between prices identified as of "June 1" and those as "year" averages led to the inclusion of all prices to calculate an all-city average for each year. In calculating the relative prices for each commodity, a comparability procedure was used; that is, for each year two average prices were calculated—one comparable with the preceding year and the other comparable with the following year. Data for these 58 commodities were supplemented with estimates of price change for services (shoe repairs and medical care) as well as some additional items important in family spending estimated from other sources. The number of price series included in each of the index groups was food, 40; clothing, 12; rents, 2; fuel and light, 5; and other, 7.

Relative prices for the individual commodities were combined with value weights derived from the study of family expenditures in Massachusetts in 1875, supplemented by detailed expenditures of 232 families as given in the *Aldrich Reports (Wholesale Prices, part 1, pp. 62-63)*. The formula for calculation of the index was the algebraic equivalent of the Laspeyre index.

E 183. Cost-of-living indexes (Federal Reserve Bank of N.Y.), 1820-1913.

Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York, *Index of Estimated Cost of Living in the United States* (1938 revision, mimeographed).

Indexes for 1820-1952 converted to the 1947-49 base and figures showing purchasing power of the dollar "in terms of retail prices" for the same period are available in a mimeographed release with same title dated March 17, 1953.

See also general note for series E 135-186.

This index was obtained by splicing together parts of indexes already available to approximate a continuous series. No adjustments were made to the original series other than those necessary to convert to a common base period. Indexes for 1820-1839 were taken from Alvin H. Hansen's cost-of-living indexes which were based on wholesale prices for these years. For 1840-1859, the indexes used were also obtained from Hansen's index which had in turn utilized the weighted index of wholesale prices (assuming all unpriced items moved with all priced items) computed by Roland P. Falkner for the Senate Committee on Finance. The Falkner indexes for 1840-1891 may be found in Senate Report No. 1394 (*Aldrich Report, Wholesale Prices, Wages, and Transportation*, U. S. Senate Committee on Finance, 1893, p. 93). For 1860-1879, the Federal Reserve Bank used the relative cost-of-living series prepared by Wesley C. Mitchell, who calculated his index from retail price data for 60 of the "necessaries of life" included in the *Weeks Report*. The original series may be found in Mitchell's *Gold, Prices, and Wages Under the Greenback Standard*, University of California Publications in Economics, vol. 1, Berkeley, March 1908, p. 91. For 1880-1889, the indexes were those of W. Randolph Burgess in *Trends of School Costs* (see series E 184). For 1890-1909, Paul Douglas' "Most Probable Index of the Total Cost of Living for Workingmen" (see series E 185) as published in *American Economic Review*, March 1926 supplement, p. 22, was used. Indexes for 1920-1912 were derived from the cost-of-living index for Massachusetts appearing in the Department of Labor and Industries of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, *Report of the Commission on the Necessaries of Life*, February 1920, p. 118.

E 184. Cost-of-living index (Burgess), 1841-1920.

Source: *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, February 1934, vol. XVI, No. 2, p. 26 (copyright, Harvard College, Cambridge).

For original data in dollars, see W. Randolph Burgess, *Trends of School Costs*, Russell Sage Foundation, New York City, 1920, p. 54.

See also general note for series E 135-186.

To determine changes in the purchasing power of teacher's salaries for his study of *Trends in School Costs*, Burgess compiled the series,

"Cost of Living Per Week for a Small Family Using the Same Amount of the Same Commodities Over the Entire Period." This series is based on prices for 10 foods important in wage earners' spending. Quantity weights, derived from BLS 1901-1902 consumer expenditure studies, were used to combine prices of the 10 foods. On the assumption that other less important items fluctuated with food prices, the total food cost was adjusted upward to approximate the total weekly cost for all items for a typical wage earners' family of man, wife, and two children. The factor used for adjustment was based on the ratio of food costs to total costs in 1901. The source of the price data is indicated by general reference to BLS, the Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics of Labor, the *Aldrich Reports*, records of purchases by the Army and Navy, and miscellaneous publications.

E 185. Cost-of-living index (Douglas), 1890-1926.

Source: Paul H. Douglas, *Real Wages in the United States, 1890-1926*, Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston and New York, 1930, p. 60 (copyright).

See also general note for series E 135-186.

This index was called the "Most Probable Index of the Movement of the Total Cost of Living for Workingmen" by Douglas, who constructed the series for his study of real wages during this period. The all-item indexes are available for two base periods, 1890-1899 and 1914.

For 1890-1914, the sources of the price data were BLS wholesale and retail reports. The available retail prices for foods were supplemented with wholesale prices for additional foods. These wholesale data were adjusted for the variation in movement between retail and wholesale prices for identical foods. Wholesale prices were also adjusted to approximate retail prices for clothing, fuel and light, furniture, tobacco, and spirits. The combined index for all items is a weighted arithmetic average of price relatives, using weights derived from the BLS consumer expenditure study of 1901-1902. No estimates were made for rent movements because of lack of data. For 1913-1926, the individual city indexes in the BLS "Cost-of-Living Index" were combined with city population weights.

E 186. Cost-of-living index (Rees), 1890-1914.

Source: National Bureau of Economic Research, *Thirty-eighth Annual Report*, New York, May 1958, pp. 59-60 (copyright).

Rees' cost-of-living index was based largely on retail prices. Douglas' estimates were adopted for food at retail, and tobacco and spirits at wholesale prices (see text for series E 185), but retail data were assembled to compute new components for fuel, rent, clothing, and housefurnishings. Prices for gas obtained from utility companies, and retail prices of kerosene as used for the New Jersey State cost-of-living index, were included in fuels. Wholesale prices of coal were included before 1907 and for kerosene before 1898. Rents for six cities were compiled from newspaper advertisements. Prices for clothing and housefurnishings were compiled from mail-order catalogs.

The index is a weighted average of price relatives, using weights derived largely from the BLS consumer expenditure study of 1901-1902.

E 187-202. Retail prices of selected foods in U.S. cities (BLS), 1890-1970.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), 1890-1922, Bulletin 396, *Retail Prices, 1890 to 1924*, pp. 8-10; 1923-1934, BLS Bulletin 635, *Retail Prices of Food 1923-36*, pp. 77-89; 1935-1939, Serial No. R. 1172 (August 1940), *Retail Prices*, pp. 28-35; 1940-1970, annual or biennial bulletins, *Retail Prices of Food* (including Serial No. R. 1264, and Bulletins 707, 799, 899, 938, 965, 1032, 1055, 1141, 1183, 1217, 1254, 1301, 1446, and 1632).

While there were scattered statistics of prices of many individual commodities in various publications, it was not until 1901, when BLS began the collection of food prices on a regular basis, that a

regular price collection program was initiated by the Federal Government. At that time, information was secured from dealers' books for 1890-1901. Since then, retail prices of food have been obtained by BLS, first at annual intervals, then monthly or semimonthly.

As the pricing program was expanded to other commodities and services purchased by families for daily living, the available resources and review of data requirements for the over-all Consumer Price Index (CPI) resulted in sampling and methodology changes for foods. The growth in importance of some foods and declines for others, changes in kinds and sizes of packages, different methods of preparation of foods for retail stores, and similar developments were taken into consideration in the adjustments made to the list of foods priced. Of the many foods included for most of the period since 1890, only 16 were selected for publication here.

The list of cities in which food prices were collected changed over the years. In the main, the cities covered were industrial localities in 30 to 40 States up to 1952. Beginning in 1953, the collection of food prices was restricted to the 46 cities included in the CPI. In 1964, pricing was extended to 50 areas. Six additional metropolitan areas were added in 1966 making the sample 56 metropolitan areas or urban places. See text for series E 135-166.

The number of stores in each city reporting food prices, after the initial collections through 1904, generally ranged from 25 in the larger cities to 15 in the smaller cities until 1932. Average prices for the United States were obtained by making simple averages of quotations from the total number of firms reporting for each food for 1915-1932. Average relative prices for each commodity were applied to prices in 1915 to estimate national averages for 1890-1914. Some chain stores were added to the samples as their sales volumes became significant in each city.

During 1932-1934 the store samples were expanded, particularly in the larger cities, and the method of averaging prices was adjusted to reflect food sales by chain and independent stores in each city. National averages were obtained by combining weighted city averages with the use of consumption and population weights. Refinements to the sampling and the weighting system have been introduced from time to time (see "Store Samples for Retail Food Prices," *Monthly Labor Review*, January 1947).

During the revision of the CPI in the late 1930's, comparable revised national averages were calculated back to 1923. The national averages shown here are those estimated by price relatives for 1890-1915, simple averages of quotations from all cities for 1916-1922, and weighted city averages beginning with 1923.

Food price data were collected by use of mail schedules and occasional personal visits until 1934. Since that year, all prices have been collected by personal visit of BLS representatives. Changes in descriptions for the foods priced, the cities covered, sizes and designs of samples of stores, and methods of processing introduce some non-comparabilities into the series.

Before the comprehensive CPI revision in 1964 BLS had published monthly city average retail food prices which were simply weighted means of the quotations used in the calculation of index numbers. However, the implementation of two recommendations of the Price Statistics Review Committee of the National Bureau of Economic Research concerning use of broader, less detailed specifications and the introduction of replicated samples resulted in data which could not be processed to meaningful average prices. Therefore, an estimating technique was adopted which takes advantage of the improved coverage resulting from broader specifications and those well-defined prices available. A set of average prices, called "benchmarks," is computed periodically, usually once a year, through the exclusion of all prices of items not meeting the exact requirements of a narrowly-defined specification. Once established, these benchmark prices are adjusted each month by the change in prices reflected in the index. A more detailed and technical explanation of this estimating procedure is available in "Calculation of Average Retail Food Prices," *Monthly Labor Review*, January 1965.

E 187, flour. Prices are for general all-purpose white wheat flour.

The size of package on which quotations were secured were: 1890-1928, 1/8 or 1/4 of a barrel although some smaller units were also included; 1929-1938, 12 or 24 lb. sack; 1939-1942, 5-12 lb. sack; 1943-1970, 5 lb. sack.

E 188, bread. Prices are for white bread, pan style, excluding all specialty type bread. For 1913-1936, prices were obtained from bakeries for 16 or 18 ounces in the dough and converted to 16 ounces baked weight. Both wrapped and unwrapped breads were included. Beginning in 1937, prices have been obtained primarily from grocery stores for the volume-selling size loaf of wrapped bread. The baked weight as given on the wrapper or reported by the store was converted to 16 ounces.

National averages have not been computed for 1890-1912. Prices for individual firms are available in the early retail price bulletins.

E 189, round steak. For 1890-1939, the averages include quotations for the best cut of the best grade handled in each store for whole round or top round, mostly bone-in. For 1940-1970, prices were for top round, bone-in, U.S. choice grade (comparable to U.S. good grade prior to the changes in grades by the Department of Agriculture in 1950).

E 190, chuck roast. For 1913-1939, quotations were reported for the best cut of the best grade handled in each store and include both bone-in and boneless. Since then, all quotations have been for "bone-in" roasts. The grade priced for 1940-1970 was the same as for round steak. Beginning in 1951, the more precise description of the cut was "blade pot-roast cut from upper part of shoulder before rib roast and behind neck, U. S. choice, bone-in."

National averages have not been computed for 1890-1912. Prices for individual firms are available in the early retail price bulletins.

E 191, pork chops. For 1890-1935, quotations were for loin chops of the best grade handled. Rib chops and chops from the thick end of the loin were excluded. From 1935 through May 1970, prices were obtained for center cut loin chops of U.S. No. 1 grade. Since May 1970, no grade has been specified.

E 192, bacon. Most of the quotations included in the average were for sliced bacon for all years. In the early years (probably before 1930) bacon was sliced when sold and prices for slab bacon may be included. Sliced and packaged bacon has been priced since about 1930 in 1 pound or two 1/2 pound packages of cellophane or similar material. Grade descriptions were: 1890-1942, best but not fancy grade; 1943-1945, first quality or fancy grade; 1946-1963, standard Grade A; since 1964, best quality.

E 193, butter. All prices refer to creamery butter, 92 to 93 score or better for 1890-1942 and 92 score for 1943-1970. Tub or print butter was priced up to 1940, roll or print in 1941 and 1942, package of 4 sticks or quarters for 1943-1946, and package print or roll, including quarters for 1947-1970.

E 194, eggs. Averages are for fresh eggs for all years. For 1890-1942, prices are for the highest grade sold in volume in each store; for 1943-1944, U.S. extras or Grade A; for 1945-1952, the highest grade and size sold in volume in each store; since 1953, large Grade A eggs in most cities, although some ungraded eggs included in some small cities.

E 195, milk, delivered. Until 1935, prices are for fresh fluid milk, raw or pasteurized, no grade designation, in quart bottle or in bulk, delivered to homes; for 1935-1946, raw or pasteurized milk of the dominant grade in each city in quart bottles or cartons; for 1947-1949, same grades, but sizes included 1-quart, 2-quart, and 4-quart containers in many cities: for 1950-1956, pasteurized milk, homogenized or nonhomogenized, without Vitamin D, of the volume-selling grade in each city in quart or half-gallon cartons or bottles; for 1957-September 1966, pasteurized, homogenized milk with Vitamin D added, 3.25 percent or over butterfat content in quart or half-gallon cartons or bottles; beginning in October 1966, prices are for half-gallon containers; since May 1970, prices are for fresh whole milk, pasteurized, homogenized, Vitamin D added.

E 196, oranges. California and Florida oranges of the variety and size constituting the bulk of sales each month were quoted from 1919 to about 1935. After that time, the size range was narrowed to include only size 176-220 in standard box of U.S. No. 1 grade (good quality).

E 197, potatoes. White or Irish potatoes, excluding large baking types, have been priced consistently for all years in the quantities in which sales have customarily been made. The designation of U.S. No. 1 grade was added in 1935.

E 198, tomatoes, canned. The volume selling brands of canned tomatoes, standard grade, in No. 2 can were priced for 1919-1954. For 1955-1970, the description was expanded to specify "small and large pieces, with a maximum of 50 percent liquid, standard grade (C)" and the can size was changed to No. 303. Prices for 1919-1954 have been converted to No. 303 can.

E 199, navy beans. Dried beans, white, navy, or pea beans, No. 1 choice, hand picked, packaged or bulk were priced for 1915-1970. For 1949-1952, California small white beans were also included and for 1953-1970, Great Northern beans.

E 200, coffee. For 1913-1970, whole bean or ground roasted coffee was priced. Bulk or packaged coffee was quoted up to 1938. For 1939-1955, coffee in cans, glass, cardboard, or paper containers were averaged. For 1956-1970, prices are for ground roasted coffee in airtight cans only.

E 201, margarine. Prices are for uncolored oleomargarine, animal and vegetable, in 1-pound cartons for 1919-1948. For 1949 and 1950, uncolored vegetable margarine in 1-pound cartons was quoted. For 1951-1970, averages are for colored vegetable margarine in 1-pound cartons.

E 202, sugar. Prices are for white granulated cane or beet sugar but the size package has varied over the years. For 1890-1916, prices for the volume-selling quantity were quoted; for 1917-1928, 1 pound; for 1929-1942, 10 pounds; and for 1943-1970, 5 pounds. For a short period during World War II, the 2-pound unit was the only one available.

E 203-213. General note.

The collection of retail prices for fuel and light was initiated in 1911 with coal and gas data for 1907-1911. After that time, the program was expanded to include gas, electricity, and the heating fuels used in important quantities in the cities covered. Prices were collected semiannually up to 1920 and at quarterly or monthly intervals from 1920 on. The indexes shown here are annual averages.

The number of cities for which prices for this group have been compiled has varied widely. Before 1947, city coverage had gradually been extended until fuels prices and utility rates were obtained in 51 cities. In 1947, this program was cut back to the 34 cities in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The CPI revision in 1952 resulted in changing the city sample and enlarging the number to 46 cities. Another revision, effective in 1964, enlarged the sample to 50 urban areas. In 1966, six additional areas were included.

The changing importance of particular kinds of fuel in particular localities, coupled with the overall change in the area sample over the years, produced many changes in the volume of data for the indexes. The amount of supplementary information for deriving weights has varied also. In order to produce continuous index numbers, all changes in samples and methods of averaging were handled by the linking process.

All prices have been collected by mail from retailers and utility companies in each city, except reports for electricity which have been secured through the Federal Power Commission since 1937.

The terms of sale for the quotations were net cash payment basis, delivered to the residential consumer in specified quantities. Charges for special services were excluded, but all applicable sales taxes were included. Annual averages were computed using standard Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) procedures.

The following BLS bulletins contain the history of the collection and publication of prices for this group: Bulletin 664, *Changes in Retail Prices of Electricity, 1923-38*, pp. 17-19; Bulletin 628, *Changes in Retail Prices of Gas, 1923-36*, pp. 48-52; Bulletin 950, *Residential Heating Fuels; Retail Prices, 1541-48*, pp. 1-4. These reports contain references to earlier bulletins and include other index and price series.

E 203. Retail price indexes of electricity for residential use, composite, 1913-1970.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), *Retail Price Indexes of Fuels and Utilities* (formerly *Fuels and Electricity*) January 1972.

See also general note for series E 203-213.

This composite is an extension backward of a current BLS series. For 1913-1934, the index is based on the average price per kilowatt-hour for the average amount of electricity used by families in each of the 32 cities included in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Average prices for the 32 cities were combined as simple averages.

In 1938, a new method of computation for the revised CPI was inaugurated, and data were extended back to 1936. Net monthly bills for typical residential services were calculated from rate schedules for each city. The number of cities in the composite included 34 cities for 1935-1952, 46 cities for 1953-1963, 50 cities for 1964-1965, and 56 cities for 1966-1970.

Changes also have been made in the typical services. For the period 1935-1952, 25, 40, 100, and 250 kilowatt-hour monthly net bills were priced. From December 1952 to December 1963, three services were priced—40, 100, and 200 kilowatt-hours. With the revision of the CPI in 1964, the composite of services priced was changed to 100, 250, and 500 kilowatt-hours. The new composite included the entire 50-city sample for 1964 and 1965, and the entire 56-city sample for 1966-1970.

The net monthly bills for the typical services were first combined into an index for each city by using weights approximating the importance of each of the services in that city. The city indexes were then combined with the consumption and population weights of the CPI.

E 204. Retail price indexes of electricity for residential use, 100 kilowatt-hours, 1923-1970.

Source: See source for series E 203.

See also general note for series E 203-213.

This index is based on net monthly bills for one of the typical services included in the composite, series E 203. When the new method of calculation was inaugurated in 1938, net monthly bills were obtained from rate schedules supplied by the companies or in BLS files. Originally, the indexes were calculated on the 1923-25 base and converted to later base periods when the CPI was revised.

For 1923-June 1947, the cities in the series totaled 51 (including the 34 CPI cities). Thereafter, only CPI cities were included. The weights used for 1923-June 1947 represented the number of residential customers as of December 31, 1935. Since July 1947, the weights have been the CPI consumption and population factors.

E 205. Retail price indexes of gas for residential use, composite, 1935-1970.

Source: See source for series E 203.

See also general note for series E 203-213.

This composite is another backward extension of a current BLS series. It combines data used to produce the indexes for "residential heating" and "other than residential heating."

When price collection for gas was begun by the BLS in 1911, the majority of the cities were served with manufactured gas. As a result of the increasing trend to use of natural gas, the number of cities for which the BLS obtained prices for manufactured gas declined from 35 of 39 cities in 1911 and 42 of 51 cities in 1923, to none of the

CPI cities since 1957. While manufactured gas was being phased out, the use of natural gas increased. In 1913, only 8 or 9 of 50 cities were using natural gas; 18 of 50 cities were using natural gas in 1935, 33 of 46 cities in 1957, 49 of 50 cities in 1964, and 55 of the 56 CPI cities from 1966 to 1970.

The use of natural gas for residential heating grew in importance as additional pipelines made natural gas available to more and more cities. Although gas for residential heating was not included in the CPI before 1953, a special study in 1943 provided information on the volume of sales for residential heating as of 1940 and rate schedule data back to 1935 for cities in which natural gas was an important heating fuel.

In 1935, the BLS adopted the method of computing net monthly bills based on a definite number of heat units (therms of 100,000 British Thermal Units each) for each of 4 services—10.6, 19.6, 30.6, and 40.6 therms. These services were for use other than residential heating.

E 206. Retail price indexes of gas for residential heating, 1935-1970.

Source: See source for series E 203.

See also general note for series E 203-213.

For the period 1935-1946, 27 of the 51 cities used for utility pricing were included in residential heating. For 1947-1952, 16 of 34 cities were included; for 1953-1963, 28 of 46 cities; for 1964-1965, 46 of 50 CPI urban areas; and, from 1966-1970, 50 of the 56 areas.

The price for each city was calculated as an average of the rates per therm in all of the heating rate blocks of the rate schedule, weighted by the total number of therms sold by the gas company in that rate block for residential heating. For 1935-1952, the average rates per therm for the various cities were then combined, using total thermal sales for residential heating in each city as weights. For 1953-1970, they were combined with consumption and population weights in the CPI.

E 207. Retail price indexes of gas for other than residential heating, composite, 1935-1970.

Source: See source for series E 203.

See also general note for series E 203-213.

In 1935, BLS began pricing net monthly bills based upon a definite number of heat units (therms of 100,000 BTU each) for each of 4 selected services—10.6, 19.6, 30.6, and 40.6 therms. These 4 typical services were continued from 1935 through 1952. For 1953-1963, net monthly bills for 10 and 25 therms were used and, for 1964-1970, net monthly bills of 10, 25, and 40 therms. This method of calculating prices has provided a better measure of price changes since differences in heating values over time could be taken into account.

Indexes based on 10.6 and 30.6 therms back to 1923 and a description of the methods adopted in 1936 are included in BLS Bulletin 628, *Changes in Retail Prices of Gas*.

The number of cities included was 34 for 1935-1952 and 46 for 1953-1963. With the revised CPI of 1964, 49 of 50 cities were priced for gas other than residential heating, and, in 1966, this went to 56 of 56 CPI cities. For the methods of combining monthly bills used, see text for series E 203.

E 208. Retail price indexes of gas for other than residential heating, 10 therms, 1935-1970.

Source: See source for series E 203.

See also general note for series E 203-213, and text for E 207.

For 1935-June 1947, the net monthly bill for 10.6 therms was computed for each city, and cities were combined on the basis of number of residential customers as of December 1946. For July 1947-1970, prices were obtained for 10 therms and city averages were combined with the consumption and population weights of the CPI.

Annual averages were estimated from quarterly figures for 1935-1951, and from monthly figures beginning in 1952.

E 209. Retail price indexes of gas for other than residential heating, 25 therms, 1935-1970.

Source: See source for series E 203.

See also general note for series E 203-213 and text for series E 207. With the revision of January 1964, pricing of 25 and 40 therm net bills was initiated. Pricing occurred in 40 of the 50 CPI cities in December 1963 and was increased to 55 of 56 CPI cities when the CPI was expanded in December 1965. For frequency of collection and methods employed to combine city data, see text for series E 208.

E 210. Retail price indexes of fuel oil and coal for residential use, 1935-1970.

Source: See source for series E 203.

See also general note for series E 203-213.

This is a composite index combining consumption and population weights of fuel oil and coal used for the individual CPI commodities. In addition to fuel oil No. 2, the commodities priced for this index included, for varying periods of time, fuel oils No. 3 and No. 4, kerosene, anthracite, and bituminous coal. Pricing of petroleum fuels, other than fuel No. 2, was discontinued in 1964.

E 211. Retail price indexes of No. 2 fuel oil for residential use, 1935-1970.

Source: See source for series E 203.

See also general note for series E 203-213.

Retail prices of petroleum fuels were first collected in 24 cities in 1937 and data were obtained back to 1935. Thereafter, the number of cities was increased as fuel oil for heating became more important. Beginning in 1947, the city coverage was restricted to those included in the CPI and, through 1963, usually covered about 20 cities. For 1964 and 1965, 30 of the 50 CPI cities were covered and, from 1966 to 1970, 32 of 56 CPI cities were covered.

The prices from which the index was computed refer to prices per 100 gallons delivered in "the amount usually delivered at one time." No. 2 fuel oil has been priced continuously and, for 1939-1947, No. 3 oil also was priced and included. Average prices for each city were simple averages of quotations from a sample of dealers. For 1935-1938, city averages were combined with CPI consumption and population weights. For 1939-1946, weighting factors to combine city averages were obtained from 1941 shipments to each city as measured by Office of Price Administration rationing authorities. CPI weights were again employed after 1946 to obtain the US. averages.

E 212. Retail price indexes of Pennsylvania anthracite for residential use, stove size, 1913-1962.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Retail Prices and Indexes of Fuels and Electricity*, December issues.

See also general note for series E 203-213.

Data for the early years by type of coal for each firm reporting were published in BLS Bulletin 105, *Retail Prices, 1890-1911*. Similar data for 1912-1917 are included in later issues of *Retail Prices*. Since the first collection, BLS has continuously obtained retail prices for all locally important fuels.

This index was based on average prices per net ton delivered at the curb or in the bin if there was no extra charge. Prices from dealers in each city always have been combined as a simple average for each city. For 1913-1928, city averages were combined also on an unweighted basis. Through a revision of method in 1936, city average prices for 1929-1952 were weighted by fixed weights based on anthracite shipments to each city by rail during the year ending July 1936. For 1953-1962, the city averages were combined with consumption and population weights of the CPI.

Cities for which anthracite prices were obtained varied partly because of change in consumer demand and partly due to CPI revisions. Generally the number of cities has declined until, with the revision of January 1964, indexes of retail prices for anthracite coal were no longer published.

E 213. Retail price indexes of bituminous coal for residential use, all domestic sizes, 1913-1962.

Source: See source for series E 212.

See also general note for series E 203-213.

For methods of collection and averaging of prices, see text for series E 212. Generally, the index was based on unweighted averages of all prices for all sizes and types of bituminous coal for 1913-June 1947, and on city averages weighted with CPI weighting factors for July 1947-1962. Publication of this series also was discontinued effective with the January 1964 revision of the CPI.

E 214. Rent indexes (Warren and Pearson) for dwelling units in 5 large cities, 1860-1880.

Source: George F. Warren and Frank A. Pearson, *Prices*, John Wiley and Sons, New York, 1933, p. 267 (copyright).

See also G. F. Warren and F. A. Pearson, *Wholesale Prices for 213 Years, 1720-1932*, Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station, *Memoir 142*, Ithaca, New York, 1932, p. 27.

The method of calculating this index was not indicated. The rental data were obtained from the special report by J. D. Weeks, "Report on the Average Retail Prices of Necessaries of Life in the United States" in volume 20 of the Tenth Census of the United States, pp. 104-107.

★★★★★ **More Recent Data for Historical Statistics Series** ★★★★★

★ Statistics for more recent years in continuation of many of the still-active series shown here appear
★ in annual issues of the *Statistical Abstract of the United States*, beginning with the 1975 edition. For
★ direct linkage of the historical series to the tables in the *Abstract*, see Appendix I in the *Abstract*. ★

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IMPLICIT PRICE DEFLATORS

Series E 1-22. Implicit Price Deflators for Gross National Product: 1929 to 1970

[Index numbers, 1958 = 100. See series F 5 for GNP price deflator data for 1869-19281

Year	Gross national product	Personal consumption expenditures				Gross private domestic investment						
		Total	Durable goods	Non-durable goods	Services	Total	Fixed investment					
							Nonresidential			Residential		
							Total	Structure [§]	Producer [¶] durable equipment	Total	Nonfarm	Farm
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
1970	135.2	129.3	108.9	127.7	140.1	182.2	130.0	152.6	120.1	140.0	140.0	134.9
1969	128.2	123.5	106.1	122.2	133.2	126.4	123.0	141.0	115.3	137.7	137.8	132.9
1968	122.3	118.4	103.4	117.1	126.9	120.4	117.5	129.8	112.0	129.7	129.5	125.6
1967	117.6	114.4	100.3	113.0	122.2	115.9	113.8	124.0	109.3	123.1	123.1	122.6
1966	113.9	111.5	98.7	110.7	118.3	111.8	110.2	118.9	106.0	117.4	117.4	116.1
1965	110.9	108.8	99.6	106.9	115.1	109.3	107.5	114.7	103.9	114.2	114.3	110.1
1964	108.8	107.4	110.4	104.9	113.1	107.6	105.7	111.1	103.0	112.3	112.4	108.2
1963	107.2	106.1	100.4	104.0	110.9	106.0	104.5	108.9	102.3	108.9	109.0	107.2
1962	105.8	104.9	100.8	102.8	109.0	104.9	104.1	107.1	102.3	106.7	106.8	104.6
1961	104.6	103.9	100.6	101.9	107.6	103.9	103.4	105.6	102.1	105.0	105.0	104.9
1960	103.3	102.9	100.9	101.2	105.8	103.4	102.9	104.0	102.2	104.5	104.4	105.0
1959	101.6	101.3	101.4	99.9	103.0	102.6	102.2	102.7	102.0	103.1	103.1	103.0
1958	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1957	97.5	97.7	98.4	97.7	97.3	98.5	97.9	98.6	97.5	99.8	99.8	100.5
1956	94.0	94.8	94.9	94.9	94.6	94.0	92.4	93.4	91.8	97.4	97.4	97.7
1955	90.9	92.8	91.9	93.6	92.0	89.0	86.7	88.1	85.9	92.9	92.9	93.4
1954	89.6	92.5	92.9	94.2	90.0	86.8	84.8	86.0	84.0	90.4	90.3	91.9
1953	88.3	91.7	94.3	93.9	87.7	86.6	84.0	84.9	83.5	91.9	91.8	93.3
1952	87.5	90.5	95.4	94.3	83.6	85.3	82.6	83.2	82.2	90.8	91.0	86.8
1951	85.6	88.6	94.2	93.3	80.0	83.1	80.4	79.3	80.9	88.6	88.4	92.2
1950	80.2	82.9	87.8	86.0	76.3	77.5	74.4	72.9	75.2	82.5	82.5	82.9
1949	79.1	81.7	86.8	85.6	74.3	74.7	72.8	71.2	73.6	78.5	78.2	82.7
1948	79.6	82.3	86.3	88.5	72.1	73.9	70.7	71.5	70.3	80.8	80.5	85.7
1947	74.6	77.9	82.7	83.6	67.9	66.7	64.5	64.4	64.6	71.7	71.3	78.6
1946	66.7	70.5	76.8	74.3	62.7	58.5	56.3	54.4	57.5	59.7	59.4	63.5
1945	59.7	65.4	75.9	68.7	58.7	51.5	51.0	49.2	51.7	54.9	64.6	58.5
1944	58.2	63.2	71.5	66.2	57.5	51.1	51.0	48.6	51.9	51.6	51.1	55.8
1943	56.8	59.9	64.2	62.5	55.3	49.3	49.9	46.8	51.1	47.0	46.8	48.8
1942	53.0	54.8	69.3	55.6	52.7	46.5	47.8	41.3	51.5	43.3	43.4	42.0
1941	47.2	48.7	50.4	47.7	49.8	42.0	42.7	36.4	46.3	40.3	40.6	36.3
1940	43.9	45.5	46.5	43.8	47.9	39.0	40.0	33.9	43.4	36.9	37.2	32.3
1939	43.2	45.1	46.0	43.2	47.7	37.7	38.7	33.1	42.2	35.7	35.9	32.0
1938	43.9	45.6	46.7	44.0	47.7	38.2	39.3	33.9	43.0	35.5	35.7	31.8
1937	44.5	46.5	45.8	46.4	46.8	37.8	38.8	34.4	41.4	34.3	34.4	33.3
1936	44.7	44.7	43.6	44.8	45.0	34.6	35.6	30.2	38.5	31.3	31.2	32.2
1935	42.6	44.4	43.7	44.5	44.4	34.3	35.9	30.6	38.7	29.8	29.7	50.7
1934	42.2	43.5	44.7	42.7	44.3	33.7	34.9	28.9	38.8	30.1	30.1	30.8
1933	39.3	40.6	41.9	38.0	43.6	30.6	31.6	27.9	34.5	27.1	27.1	26.7
1932	40.2	42.3	43.2	37.7	48.3	31.6	32.9	27.6	39.1	27.3	27.4	26.2
1931	44.8	47.9	49.1	44.1	52.7	35.2	35.8	31.1	41.1	33.6	33.7	32.1
1930	49.3	53.6	55.3	51.6	55.7	37.9	38.1	34.0	43.0	37.1	37.1	38.0
1929	50.6	55.3	56.4	54.5	56.1	89.4	39.9	35.7	44.6	38.1	38.0	39.1

Series E 1-22. Implicit Price Deflators for Gross National Product: 1929 to 1970—Con.

[Indexnumbers, 1958 = 100]

Year	Government purchases of goods and services			Final sales			By sector			
	Total	Federal	State and local	Goods output	Services	Structures	Private			General government
							Total	Business	Households and institutions	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
1970	157.6	149.2	165.0	122.3	150.1	149.7	130.3	129.0	185.5	183.8
1969	144.0	134.5	153.6	117.3	140.9	140.9	124.3	123.2	172.5	171.0
1968	135.1	126.5	144.8	113.1	133.4	131.1	118.9	113.0	159.4	159.1
1967	123.5	121.5	136.4	109.9	127.1	124.7	114.3	114.0	147.5	147.7
1966	124.0	113.8	129.4	107.4	122.3	119.3	111.6	110.9	138.1	140.3
1965	119.4	115.5	123.5	105.0	118.5	114.7	108.3	108.3	131.7	133.5
1964	115.7	112.2	119.5	103.5	115.8	111.6	107.0	106.6	126.4	123.4
1963	111.8	108.0	116.3	103.0	112.6	108.7	105.8	105.4	120.9	121.5
1962	109.0	105.6	113.2	102.6	110.1	106.4	104.7	104.4	116.2	116.6
1961	107.1	105.2	109.4	101.9	108.4	104.4	103.7	103.5	112.3	113.6
1960	105.0	104.2	105.9	101.4	106.1	103.8	102.8	102.6	108.8	108.6
1959	102.4	102.2	102.6	100.6	102.9	102.2	101.4	101.3	104.0	104.2
1958	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1957	96.4	95.8	97.3	97.9	96.3	99.3	97.9	97.9	96.2	93.3
1956	92.1	91.7	92.7	94.3	93.0	95.4	94.5	94.5	92.4	88.7
1955	87.1	86.9	87.5	91.6	89.9	90.2	91.6	91.6	39.8	34.0
1954	84.1	33.5	35.3	91.6	87.1	88.1	90.8	90.3	37.9	79.5
1953	81.3	31.4	32.8	90.6	84.7	88.6	89.6	89.7	85.4	76.6
1952	81.0	31.2	30.6	91.4	81.2	87.4	89.0	89.1	82.0	74.4
1951	78.5	79.4	76.9	91.0	77.5	84.4	87.4	87.5	78.1	70.5
1950	71.8	72.9	70.8	84.3	74.0	78.2	81.4	81.6	74.4	67.1
1949	71.0	73.0	63.9	84.6	71.9	75.3	80.6	80.8	72.6	64.7
1948	68.1	69.3	66.4	86.4	69.3	76.7	81.4	81.7	71.0	60.8
1947	62.9	65.6	60.4	81.1	65.9	68.7	76.3	76.5	68.1	58.5
1946	55.3	57.3	53.2	72.6	60.1	57.3	68.2	68.4	63.1	55.4
1945	52.6	53.1	43.6	65.1	58.1	50.6	62.6	62.7	58.0	43.3
1944	58.1	53.3	46.1	64.6	49.8	48.7	62.0	62.8	52.2	43.3
1943	58.9	54.9	44.6	64.2	47.4	48.5	60.9	61.3	45.2	39.7
1942	50.9	52.5	42.3	59.2	46.7	44.0	55.5	56.1	37.6	37.3
1941	44.0	46.6	39.2	50.5	44.9	38.5	48.7	49.2	33.7	34.7
1940	38.5	40.2	37.3	45.2	44.2	35.7	44.7	45.2	32.1	36.0
1939	37.9	40.8	36.3	44.2	44.2	34.6	48.9	44.4	32.0	36.8
1938	88.3	40.5	36.8	45.1	44.4	35.0	44.6	45.3	31.6	37.4
1937	33.4	40.7	37.1	46.7	43.7	35.1	45.3	45.9	32.0	36.5
1936	37.6	40.5	35.9	44.8	42.3	32.2	43.4	44.1	30.2	36.5
1935	37.0	37.0	37.0	45.0	41.6	31.5	43.5	44.2	29.4	34.7
1934	36.8	37.4	36.6	44.2	41.5	31.6	43.0	43.8	29.2	34.3
1933	34.5	33.1	35.0	39.2	40.8	29.5	39.9	40.6	29.2	33.5
1932	33.4	81.9	33.8	33.9	44.5	27.9	40.9	41.5	31.4	33.7
1931	36.3	84.5	36.6	45.0	43.1	33.2	45.7	46.2	34.5	34.5
1930	37.9	34.1	33.7	51.9	50.6	36.4	50.4	51.1	37.3	34.1
1929	38.6	36.0	39.1	53.9	51.4	37.7	51.7	52.2	33.9	34.1

Series E 52-63. Wholesale Price Indexes (Warren and Pearson), by Major Product Groups: 1749 to 1890—Con.

[1910-14 = 100]

Year	All commodities	Farm products	Foods	Hides and leather products	Textile products	Fuel and lighting	Metals and metal products	Building materials	Chemicals and drugs	Spirits	Miscellaneous	Year	All commodities
	52	53	54	65	56	57	58	59	60	62	63		52
1810	181	90	189	75	278	167	332	59	483	29	208	1778	140
1809	180	88	129	73	323	147	350	60	538	27	197	1777	128
1808	115	71	118	79	279	148	336	57	455	23	164	1776	86
1807	180	92	142	82	274	161	327	59	440	22	178		
1806	184	95	150	85	280	158	328	58	519	23	179	1775	75
												1774	76
1805	141	106	162	85	270	196	309	51	511	24	165	1773	84
1804	126	89	142	84	252	182	300	56	493	23	149	1772	89
1803	118	83	185	83	232	182	290	53	431	25	188	1771	79
1802	117	84	182	80	230	188	301	55	377	24	145		
1801	142	118	177	71	236	167	348	55	445	27	178	1770	77
												1769	77
1800	129	99	157	62	225	159	322	51	427	25	194	1768	74
1799	126	98	147	62	227	150	310	51	523	24	206	1767	77
1798	122	98	145	65	226	181	304	51	442	26	177	1766	78
1797	181	98	168			144	299	54		26	177		
1796	146	116	186			150	284	58		31	204	1765	72
												1764	74
1795	181	102	168			155	259	56		25	220	1763	79
1794	108	76	185			125	258	40		23	158	1762	87
1793	102	75	125			122	240	39		22	163	1761	77
1791	85	57	99			100	240	84		19	148		
												1760	79
1790	90	68	104			95	247	35		17	141	1759	79
1789	86	68	94			99	250	85		16	152	1758	70
1787	90	78	108			127	236	86		15	148	1757	65
1786	90	75										1756	66
1785	92											1755	66
1784												1754	65
1783												1753	65
1782												1752	66
1781	216											1751	65
1780	225											1750	60
1779	226											1749	68

Series E 64-72. Wholesale Price Indexes (BLS), by Durability of Product: 1947 to 1970

[1967 = 100]

Year	All commodities			Manufactures			Raw or slightly processed goods		
	Total	Durable	Nondurable	Total	Durable	Nondurable	Total	Durable	Nondurable
	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72
1970	110.4	112.4	108.9	110.2	112.0	108.2	111.4	123.6	110.7
1969	106.5	107.9	105.3	106.2	107.7	104.6	108.0	114.1	107.6
1968	102.5	108.4	101.7	102.6	103.5	101.5	102.2	99.6	102.3
1967	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1966	99.8	98.1	100.9	99.1	97.9	100.0	103.7	107.4	103.5
1965	96.6	95.9	96.9	96.3	95.8	96.8	98.1	103.2	97.8
1964	94.7	94.7	94.7	94.8	94.6	93.7	94.9	96.6	94.8
1963	94.5	93.4	95.1	94.3	93.5	94.8	95.9	88.3	96.4
1962	94.8	98.4	95.6	94.5	93.5	95.1	96.9	87.9	97.4
1961	94.5	98.7	95.1	94.4	93.6	95.0	95.7	93.8	95.8
1960	94.9	94.1	95.4	94.8	94.1	95.2	96.2	92.1	96.4
1959	94.8	94.2	95.1	94.6	94.0	94.8	96.5	97.8	96.4
1958	94.6	92.1	96.5	93.8	92.2	95.4	99.1	92.9	99.4
1957	93.3	91.2	94.9	92.8	90.9	94.7	96.5	104.9	96.0
1956	90.7	88.3	92.6	90.0	87.5	92.4	94.6	116.8	93.4
1955	87.8	82.8	91.8	86.6	82.2	91.2	94.3	104.8	93.7
1954	87.6	79.6	93.7	85.7	79.4	92.2	96.9	86.5	97.6
1953	87.4	78.8	93.9	85.0	78.4	91.9	98.6	94.9	98.9
1952	88.6	77.3	97.1	85.1	76.7	93.8	104.7	99.5	105.0
1951	91.1	77.0	101.8	87.0	76.3	98.4	109.7	102.6	110.1
1950	81.8	70.2	90.6	78.4	69.6	37.7	97.5	90.8	97.9
1949	78.7	67.5	87.2	75.5	67.3	84.3	93.3	78.1	94.2
1948	82.8	66.1	95.5	78.2	65.4	91.8	103.8	97.1	104.2
1947	76.5	59.9	89.2	72.3	59.4	86.0	95.7	82.0	96.6

Series E 73-86. Wholesale Price Indexes (BLS), for Economic Sectors, by Stage of Processing: 1913 to 1970

Year	All commodities	Crude materials for further processing				Intermediate materials, supplies and components					Finished goods ¹			
		Total	Food-stuffs and feed-stuffs	Nonfood materials, except fuel	Fuel	Total	Materials and components for—		Processed fuels and lubricants	Containers	Supplies	Total	Consumer	Producer
							Manufacturing	Construction						
73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	
1967 = 100														
1970	110.4	112.2	112.1	109.8	122.3	109.8	110.0	112.6	104.2	111.4	107.9	110.4	109.9	111.9
1969	106.5	108.3	109.1	106.8	106.4	105.9	105.8	110.9	98.7	106.3	102.7	106.6	106.5	106.9
1968	102.5	101.6	101.3	102.1	102.3	102.3	102.2	104.9	97.7	102.4	101.2	102.5	102.7	103.5
1967	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1966	99.8	105.7	105.9	106.7	96.3	99.2	99.3	98.8	99.2	98.4	99.4	98.8	99.4	96.8
1965	96.6	99.3	97.1	104.5	93.5	96.8	97.4	96.2	97.2	95.8	95.2	95.7	96.1	94.4
1964	94.7	94.5	90.8	102.4	92.8	95.5	95.9	95.4	96.0	94.0	94.3	94.1	94.3	93.3
1963	94.5	95.4	92.9	100.7	93.2	95.2	94.9	94.5	98.1	94.7	95.2	93.7	94.1	92.4
1962	94.8	97.5	95.7	102.0	92.1	94.9	94.7	94.2	99.0	95.9	93.8	94.0	94.6	92.2
1961	94.5	96.5	93.8	102.5	92.6	95.0	95.3	94.6	99.4	94.7	91.8	93.7	94.3	91.8
1960	94.9	97.0	95.1	101.4	92.8	95.6	96.5	95.9	98.2	95.5	90.7	93.7	94.5	91.7
1959	94.8	99.4	96.2	105.8	91.9	95.6	96.5	96.6	95.6	94.2	91.2	93.0	93.6	91.5
1958	94.6	102.0	103.0	102.2	90.3	94.3	95.2	94.0	96.0	94.7	90.0	93.2	94.4	89.8
1957	93.3	99.8	97.2	106.2	89.2	94.1	94.8	94.0	101.9	92.5	89.0	91.1	92.4	87.5
1956	90.7	97.6	93.1	107.6	84.4	92.0	92.6	93.5	96.3	88.6	87.1	87.9	89.8	82.4
1955	87.8	97.1	95.1	103.8	78.8	88.1	88.4	88.9	93.3	82.6	84.8	85.5	88.5	76.7
1954	87.6	101.0	104.9	98.2	79.0	86.5	86.3	85.5	93.3	81.5	86.3	85.3	89.1	74.5
1953	87.4	101.9	104.9	100.1	82.7	86.0	86.2	85.1	93.4	80.0	84.3	85.1	89.2	73.6
1952	88.6	110.3	117.2	104.6	79.9	85.5	84.8	83.7	92.8	79.9	88.8	86.0	90.7	72.4
1951	91.1	120.1	124.5	120.7	79.4	88.1	88.5	84.3	93.9	84.5	88.8	86.5	91.8	71.2
1950	81.8	104.6	107.6	104.7	77.9	78.6	78.1	77.0	89.9	72.0	78.9	79.0	83.9	64.9
1949	78.7		100.3	91.6	78.3	75.2	74.5	73.2	88.2	70.1	76.3	77.6	82.5	
1948	82.8	110.9	120.8	100.7	78.7	78.3	77.8	73.1	96.9	69.8	81.0	79.9	86.5	
1947	76.5	106.8	111.7	90.6	66.6	72.4	72.1	66.0	85.5	66.8	77.5	74.0	80.5	55.4
Year	All commodities	Crude materials for further processing	Intermediate materials, supplies and components	Finished goods ¹	Year	All commodities	Crude materials for further processing	Intermediate materials, supplies and components	Finished goods	Year	All commodities	Crude materials for further processing	Intermediate materials, supplies and components	Finished goods ¹
	73	74	78	84		73	74	78	84		73	74	78	84
1947-49 = 100														
1951	114.8	116.9	116.9	112.1	1938	51.1	42.8	49.4	55.7	1925	67.3	63.4	69.0	68.2
1950	103.1	101.8	104.3	102.4	1937	56.1	50.4	55.9	59.1	1924	63.8	58.0	71.2	65.3
1949	99.2	93.4	99.9	100.6	1936	52.5	47.5	49.7	55.6	1923	65.4	58.5	77.7	67.3
1948	104.4	108.0	104.0	103.5	1935	52.0	45.8	48.2	55.7	1922	62.8	57.0	64.8	65.4
1947	96.4	98.6	96.2	95.9	1934	48.7	40.8	47.7	53.0	1921	63.4	52.6	62.9	70.0
1946	78.7	80.0	(NA)	78.7	1933	42.8	33.6	42.8	47.8	1920	100.3	90.2	129.8	101.6
1945	68.8	69.4	62.8	69.0	1932	42.1	32.7	38.8	47.7	1919	90.1	86.7	103.3	88.6
1944	67.6	67.3	61.6	68.4	1931	47.4	39.0	45.2	52.2	1918	85.3	80.7	100.7	84.6
1943	87.0	66.6	60.8	67.9	1930	56.1	50.1	53.6	59.7				98.5	74.0
1942	64.2	59.8	60.6	66.9	1929	61.9	57.9	61.5	64.1				77.5	55.8
1941	56.8	49.6	56.9	60.4	1928	62.9	58.9	61.9	65.0	1915	45.2	39.9	53.2	46.7
1940	51.1	42.7	51.8	55.3	1927	62.0	57.3	61.8	64.4	1914	44.3	40.2	45.8	46.0
1939	50.1	41.7	50.4	54.5	1926	65.0	59.4	65.5	67.3	1913	45.4	40.9	49.0	47.1

NA Not available.

¹ Goods to users, including raw foods and fuel.

Series E 87-89. Wholesale Price Indexes (BLS), by 2 Levels of Processing, for Identical Commodities: 1890 to 1926

(1913 = 1)											
Year	All commodities (97 series)	Raw commodities (27 series)	Manufactured commodities (70 series)	Year	All commodities (97 series)	Raw commodities (27 series)	Manufactured commodities (70 series)	Year	All commodities (97 series)	Raw commodities (27 series)	Manufactured commodities (70 series)
1926	145.3	139.4	154.6	1914	99.6	93.7	101.0	1901	75.8	72.2	81.5
1925	154.1	150.7	159.6	1913	100.0	100.0	100.0	1900	76.8	72.8	83.0
1924	142.6	139.1	148.2	1912	96.9	95.1	99.7	1899	71.7	67.4	78.5
1923	142.0	138.2	148.1	1911	88.9	86.3	92.9	1398	66.1	61.2	73.6
1922	133.5	130.0	139.1	1910	97.8	95.4	101.4	1897	62.7	57.2	71.2
1921	131.6	121.2	147.7	1909	98.7	91.1	97.8	1896	61.7	56.2	70.1
1920	225.3	220.3	233.2	1908	87.3	33.7	92.8	1895	65.2	60.5	72.5
1919	215.4	216.0	214.6	1907	89.6	86.6	94.2	1894	63.0	56.8	72.4
1918	205.9	208.0	202.6	1906	83.7	81.3	87.5	1893	71.7	64.2	83.2
1917	183.3	184.0	182.1	1905	82.3	78.2	88.5	1892	69.7	62.0	81.5
1916	127.6	125.4	131.0	1904	81.9	79.1	86.2	1891	75.1	68.8	85.6
1915	102.9	101.0	105.9	1903	80.2	76.5	85.9	1890	76.1	69.3	86.6
				1902	81.0	77.1	86.9				

Series E 90-96. Wholesale Price Indexes (Taylor), for Charleston, South Carolina: 1732 to 1861

Year	All commodities (1818-42 = 100)	All commodities	S. C. export staples	U. S. products, other than S. C. export staples ¹	Foreign imports ²	Year	All commodities (1818-42 = 100)	All commodities	S. C. export staples	Other than S. C. export staples					
											90	91	92	93	94
1843-61 = 100					1813-22 = 100										
1861	118	138	105	144	166	1822	108	77	75	79					
1860	94	111	116	113	96	1821	101	71	74	67					
1859	94	111	120	112	92	1820	110	78	86	71					
1858	90	106	120	99	94	1819	133	98	96	99					
1857	106	125	135	123	109	1818	179	135	160	110					
1856	97	114	116	116	109	1817	189	138	145	131					
1855	98	115	108	182	95	1816	172	125	134	116					
1854	88	103	100	111	93	1815	149	109	102	115					
1853	84	99	108	96	89	1814	123	90	70	110					
1852	77	91	96	91	79	1813	100	79	57	101					
1851	78	92	97	90	84	1796-1812 = 100									
1850	87	102	123	88	91	1812	95	84	63	106					
1849	73	86	85	85	90	1811	96	85	70	100					
1848	67	79	66	86	92	1810	96	85	80	91					
1847	70	105	110	100	107	1809	90	79	74	85					
1846	75	88	83	85	105	1808	87	76	70	83					
1845	70	82	72	82	102	1807	107	94	100	88					
1844	68	80	73	74	106	1806	109	97	101	92					
1843	66	77	66	74	106	1818-42 = 100									
1842	74	74	67	80	75	1805	126	111	116	105					
1841	85	85	81	88	86	1804	114	101	100	102					
1840	83	83	75	90	83	1803	112	98	106	90					
1839	107	107	108	114	90	1802	106	93	96	91					
1838	103	103	88	123	92	1801	133	120	122	118					
1837	108	108	92	133	90	1800	123	108	114	108					
1836	121	121	129	124	100	1799	133	117	125	110					
1835	108	108	128	100	91	1798	129	114	123	106					
1834	98	93	97	91	91	1797	122	108	108	108					
1833	93	93	94	93	89	1796	146	128	134	122					
1832	86	86	78	91	89	S. C. products (1762-74 = 100)					Imported ³ (1781,1784-91 = 100)				
1831	81	81	70	88	86	95					96				
1830	82	82	78	80	93	1791	92	110		106					
1829	82	82	72	85	97	1790	97	119		106					
1828	85	85	80	81	103	1789	88	113		86					
1827	87	87	77	87	104	1788	97	128		87					
1826	92	92	83	96	104	1787	108	142		97					
1825	109	109	138	84	110	1786	108	142		98					
1824	93	93	99	82	102	1785	100		135	84					
1823	98	98	94	94	111	1784	110		150	86					
1822	108	108	100	108	122	1783	192		250	178					
1821	101	101	103	92	118	1781	138		170	150					
1820	110	110	121	97	114	1780	118		137	146					
1819	133	133	131	133	128										
1818	179	179	220	160	135										

Year	All commodities (1818-42 = 100)	S. C. products (1762-74 = 100)	Year	All commodities (1818-42 = 100)	S. C. products (1762-74 = 100)	Year	All commodities (1818-42 = 100)	S. C. products (1762-74 = 100)	Year	All commodities (1818-42 = 100)	S. C. products (1762-74 = 100)
1775	² 80	² 102	1764	67	86	1753	88	112	1742	66	85
1774	81	104	1763	72	92	1752	76	97	1741	76	97
1773	91	116	1762	60	77	1751	65	83			
1772	107	137	1761	62	80				1740	60	77
1771	84	108				1750	78	100	1739	65	84
			1760	72	92	1749	75	96	1738	³ 68	³ 125
1770	72	93	1759	87	112	1748	68	88	1737	92	117
1769	81	104	1758	67	86	1747	54	69	1736	75	96
1768	80	102	1757	61	78	1746	35	45			
1767	74	94	1756	60	77				1735	82	105
1766	78	100				1745	36	46	1734	84	108
			1755	67	86	1744	50	64	1733	62	80
1765	68	87	1754	67	86	1743	54	70	1732	62	79

¹ Combination for 1796 to 1822 designated as "Other than South Carolina export staples."
² Includes goods imported from abroad and from other parts of the United States.

³ Based on part of year only.

Series E 97-111. Wholesale Price Indexes (Bezanson), for Philadelphia: 1720 to 1861—Con.

Year	Un-weighted arithmetic average (1741-45 = 100)	Year	Un-weighted arithmetic average (1741-45 = 100)	Year	Un-weighted arithmetic average (1741-45 = 100)	Year	Un-weighted arithmetic average (1741-45 = 100)	Year	Un-weighted arithmetic average (1741-45 = 100)
	111		111		111		111		111
1774	127.5	1768	136.4	1752	111.9	1741	112.6	1730	98.0
1773	133.7	1762	133.4	1751	112.8			1729	92.5
1772	141.0	1761	121.2			1740	87.3	1728	92.8
1771	126.7			1750	113.0	1739	82.2	1727	97.6
		1760	125.7	1749	121.5	1738	91.1	1726	101.0
1770	121.6	1759	125.0	1748	124.7	1737	91.1		
1769	115.9	1758	109.6	1747	110.6	1736	83.6	1725	96.6
1768	119.7	1757	107.1	1746	99.7			1724	88.9
1767	123.7	1756	109.6			1735	87.8	1723	84.3
1766	124.7			1745	92.7	1734	87.2	1722	81.6
		1755	107.3	1744	94	1733	90.0	1721	78.6
1765	118.4	1754	109.1	1743	95.6	1732	83.6		
1764	119.4	1753	109.9	1742	103.3	1731	87.1	1720	86.2

Series E 112-117. Wholesale Price Indexes (Berry), for Cincinnati, 1816 to 1861, and Ohio River Valley, 1788 to 1817

Year	Cincinnati, weighted (1824-46 = 100)			Year	Ohio River Valley, unweighted (1788-1817 = 100)		
	All commodities	Identified with northern agriculture	Not identified with northern agriculture		All commodities	Identified with agriculture	Not identified with northern agriculture
	112	113	114		115	116	117
1861	103	123	76	1817	125	145	75
1860	110	133	80	1816	116	131	75
1859	114	140	79				
1858	102	120	77	1815	108	117	86
1857	128	154	94	1814	122	134	90
1856	121	141	98	1813	106	114	86
				1812	77	84	60
1855	123	153	81	1811	79	78	82
1854	110	128	85				
1853	104	118	84	1810	87	88	85
1852	93	112	68	1809	90	87	97
1851	90	107	68	1808	95	89	110
				1807	95	92	104
1850	36	98	72	1806	95	95	96
1849	77	87	65				
1848	75	83	65	1805	86	86	89
1847	90	102	76	1804	87	85	90
1846	76	81	69	1803	84	82	88
				1802	88	84	99
1845	87	97	68	1801	90	89	94
1844	77	81	71				
1843	72	73	70	1800	93	88	106
1842	72	70	76	1799	97	89	117
1841	89	91	87	1798	109	108	113
				1797	133	134	129
1840	104	111	91	1796	127	125	132
1839	138	150	116				
1838	129	137	115	1795	111	110	114
1837	131	142	112	1794	96	95	100
1836	145	159	121	1793	106	110	96
				1792	98	101	92
1835	117	125	102	1791	92	88	104
1834	95	93	97				
1833	102	101	102	1790	98	90	118
1832	101	103	98	1789	102	87	139
1831	99	100	98	1788	104	93	130
1830	93	86	106				
1829	98	91	112				
1828	92	81	113				
1827	81	79	114				
1826	93	81	115				
1825	100	85	127				
1824	98	85	122				
1823	101	87	129				
1822	98	78	166				
1821	86	68	160				
1820	140	112	237				
1819	193	164	265				
1818	190	160	264				
1817	205	175	272				
1816	196	164	289				

Series E 118-122. Wholesale Price Indexes (Taylor), for New Orleans: 1800 to 1861

Year	All commodities (1824-42 = 100)	All commodities	Louisiana products	U.S. products, other than Louisiana	Foreign imports	Year	All commodities (1824-42 = 100)	AU commodities	Louisiana products	U.S. products, other than Louisiana	Foreign imports
	118	119	120	121	122		118	120	121	122	
1843-61 = 100						1824-42 = 100—Con.					
1861	117	125	102	138	206	1827	90	90	88	87	112
1860	105	112	113	110	110	1826	95	95	97	88	116
1859	107	114	118	110	106	1825	130	155	96	123	
1858	104	111	118	104	106	1824	110	122	90	123	
1857	136	144	156	136	115	1823	105	112	90	132	
1856	114	121	121	124	107	1822	124	140	94	152	
1855	103	110	96	129	107	1821	115	130	83	160	
1854	90	96	82	114	101	1820	119	126	98	190	
1853	91	97	94	101	96	1819	151	160	127	200	
1852	85	90	91	91	84	1818	200	224	146	220	
1851	89	95	98	93	86	1817	197	218	150	151	
1850	103	110	123	95	95	1816	214	227	184	182	
1849	80	85	85	85	81	1815	170	170	142		
1848	68	73	66	81	80	1811	110	87	87	89	
1847	93	99	108	90	32	1810	119	95	91	108	
1846	78	83	88	77	83	1809	120	95	91	112	
1845	74	79	77	80	85	1808	112	89	90	83	
1844	75	80	84	74	84	1807	133	106	109	92	
1843	70	74	75	70	89	1806	142	113	114	106	
1842	75	78	76	79	93	1805	147	117	118	111	
1841	93	100	102	97	104	1804	126	100	100	101	
1840	91	97	88	106	105	1805-11 = 100					
1824-42 = 100						1805-11 = 100					
1842	75	75	73	78	75	1811	110	83			
1841	93	93	89	100	85	1810	119	87			
1840	91	91	78	110	82	1809	120	88			
1839	116	116	105	136	93	1808	112	89			
1838	107	107	98	123	96	1807	133	106			
1837	108	108	103	118	98	1806	142	118			
1836	132	132	140	129	103	1805	147	124			
1835	123	123	133	114	95	1804	126	99			
1834	96	96	99	95	87	1803	115	95			
1833	99	99	103	95	95	1802	130	106			
1832	88	88	84	92	102	1801	146	120			
1831	80	80	74	86	97	1800	138	114			
1830	86	86	85	82	103						
1829	90	90	84	94	103						
1828	91	91	92	86	110						

¹ Combination of series E 120 and E 121 designated as "Domestic products."

² Based on part of year only.

Series E 123-134. Wholesale Prices of Selected Commodities: 1800 to 1970

[In dollars per unit. Where 2 prices are shown for a single year, those in *italics* are comparable with preceding years, and those in regular type comparable with following years; see text for detailed explanation.]

Year	Wheat	Wheat flour	Sugar	Cotton, raw	Wool	Cotton sheeting	Coal anthradite	Steel rails	Nails	Copper	Turpentine	Brick
	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134
	<i>Bu.</i>	<i>100 lb.¹</i>	<i>Lb.</i>	<i>Lb.</i>	<i>Lb.</i>	<i>Yd.²</i>	<i>Ton³</i>	<i>100 lb.⁴</i>	<i>50 lb.⁵</i>	<i>Lb.</i>	<i>Gallon⁶</i>	<i>1,000</i>
1970	1.488	5.569	0.112	0.251	1.031	(NA)	16.57	6.800	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1969	1.892	5.438	.107	.255	1.223	0.285	15.02	6.575	4.674	0.476	1.090	36.17
1968	1.468	(NA)	.101	(NA)	1.205	.241	13.71	6.325	4.339	(NA)	.717	(NA)
1967	1.669	5.620	.099	.280	1.217	.255	12.89	6.075	4.335	.381	.570	33.68
1966	1.789	5.994	.096	.263	1.348	.247	(NA)	5.894	4.351	.360	.563	31.32
1965	1.560	5.465	.095	.303	1.251	.225	12.98	5.825	4.646	.354	.545	30.46
1964	1.879	5.390	.100	.322	1.393	.230	13.90	5.825	4.646	.323	.433	(NA)
1963	2.178	5.365	.112	.335	1.323	.224	13.36	5.825	4.621	.310	.314	(NA)
1962	(NA)	5.621	.089	(NA)	1.245	.226	13.05	5.825	4.715	.310	.197	(NA)
1961	2.014	5.167	.087	.322	1.181	.215	13.35	5.825	(NA)	.303	.332	(NA)
1960	1.993	4.992	.087	.314	1.163	.223	13.95	5.825	9.596	.325	.489	(NA)
1959	1.978	5.080	.086	.333	1.217	.213	14.18	5.825	9.825	.311	.535	31.67
1958	2.026	5.423	.086	.347	1.185	.198	14.24	5.675	9.828	.263	.633	(NA)
1957	2.201	5.680	.090	.338	1.608	.205	14.67	5.442	9.596	.303	.662	30.86
1956	2.219	5.676	.086	.335	1.373	.229	13.53	4.946	8.917	.418	.645	30.61
1955	2.256	5.985	.084	.336	1.423	.213	12.93	4.663	8.180	.373	.640	29.15
1954	2.307	6.133	.086	.341	1.705	.210	14.01	4.463	7.651	.300	.653	28.22
1953	2.238	5.649	.086	.323	1.729	.222	15.45	4.086	7.440	.290	.594	27.85
1952	2.387	5.477	.084	.337	1.665	.226	14.30	3.775	7.123	.245	.632	27.35
1951	2.403	5.750	.082	.416	2.702	.275	14.19	3.600	6.980	.245	.812	27.33
1950	2.226	5.427	.078	.362	1.981	.259	12.58	3.417	6.343	.216	.531	25.67
1949	2.149	5.036	.078	.316	1.662	.212	12.04	3.208	6.136	.195	.387	24.73
1948	2.409	5.445	.076	.338	1.646	.243	11.57	2.938	5.823	.223	.481	23.66
1947	2.602	6.200	.081	.345	1.242	.264	10.33	2.606	4.467	.213	.751	20.98
1946	1.895	4.487	.064	.305	1.025	.201	13.06	47.90	3.477	.141	.953	18.13

See footnotes at end of table.

Series E 135-166. Consumer Price Indexes (BLS)—All Items, 1800 to 1970, and by Groups, 1913 to 1970—Con.

[1967 = 1001

Year	All items	Food at home, total	Housing		Apparel, total	Year	All items	Year	All items	Year	All items	Year	All items	Year	All items
			Rent	House furnishings											
			150	155											
135	137	150	155	156	135	135	135	135	135						
1984	40.1	34.1	50.7	46.6	40.4	1912	29		1868	40	1846	27	1823	36	
1983	38.8	30.6	54.1	42.4	36.9	1911	28	1839	27	1867	42	1845	28	1822	40
1982	40.9	31.5	62.8	42.9	38.2			1838	27	1866	44	1844	28	1821	40
1981	45.6	37.8	70.0	49.3	43.2	1910	28	1887	27			1843	28	1820	42
						1909	27	1886	27	1865	46	1842	29	1819	46
1980	50.0	45.9	73.9	54.7	47.5	1908	27			1864	47	1841	31	1818	46
1979	51.3	48.3	76.0	56.2	48.5	1907	28	1885	27	1863	37			1817	48
1978	51.3	47.7	77.8	56.8	49.0	1906	27	1884	27	1862	30	1840	30	1816	51
1977	52.0	48.2	79.7	58.2	49.7			1883	28	1861	27	1839	32		
1976	53.0	50.0	81.0	59.6	50.8	1905	27	1882	29	1860	27	1838	32	1815	55
						1904	27	1881	29	1859	27	1837	34	1814	63
1925	52.5	48.4	81.8	61.0	51.6	1903	27			1858	27	1836	33	1813	58
1924	51.2	44.7	81.5	62.3	52.6	1902	26	1880	29	1857	26			1812	51
1923	51.1	45.1	78.6	63.4	53.1	1901	25	1879	28	1856	28	1835	31	1811	50
1922	50.2	43.7	76.7	59.0	53.0			1878	29			1834	30	1810	47
1921	53.6	46.7	74.5	69.5	65.2	1900	25	1877	32	1855	27	1833	29	1809	47
						1899	25	1876	32	1854	28	1832	30	1808	48
1920	60.0	61.5	64.9	32.7	84.6	1898	25			1853	27	1831	82	1807	44
1919	51.8	54.6	55.2	67.4	71.1	1897	25	1875	33	1852	25	1830	32	1806	47
1918	45.1	49.0	51.0	53.5	53.6	1896	25	1874	34	1851	25	1829	32	1805	45
1917	38.4	42.6	50.1	41.6	39.6			1873	36	1850	25	1828	33	1804	45
1916	32.7	33.1	50.5	35.6	33.0	1895	25	1872	36	1849	25	1827	34	1803	45
						1894	26	1871	36	1848	26	1826	34	1802	43
1915	30.4	29.4	49.9	31.9	80.1	1893	27			1847	28	1825	34	1801	50
1914	30.1	29.8	49.6	30.5	29.4	1892	27	1870	38			1824	33	1800	51
1913	29.7	29.2	49.6	29.8	29.2	1891	27	1869	40						

Series E 167-173. Consumer Price Indexes (BLS), for Special Groups: 1935 to 1970

[1967 = 1001

Year	All items, excluding food	All items, excluding shelter	Commodities			Services		Year	All items, excluding food	All items, excluding shelter	Commodities			Services	
			Total	Excluding food		Total	Excluding rent				Total	Excluding food		Total	Excluding rent
				Total	Non-durable							Total	Non-durable		
				170	171							172	173		
167	168	169	170	171	172	173	167	168	169	170	171	172	173		
1970	116.7	114.4	113.5	112.5	113.1	121.6	123.7	1952	77.5	80.8	87.0	88.3	82.4	64.5	62.2
1969	110.1	109.0	108.4	108.1	108.8	112.5	113.8	1951	75.7	79.2	85.9	87.5	82.0	61.8	59.3
1968	104.4	104.1	103.7	103.7	104.1	105.2	105.7								
1967	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	1950	71.1	73.1	78.8	81.4	76.2	58.7	56.0
1966	96.7	97.4	98.2	97.5	97.0	95.8	95.3	1949	70.3	72.6	78.3	81.5	76.8	56.9	54.5
								1948	69.6	73.9	80.4	82.7	77.8	54.3	51.9
1965	94.5	94.6	95.7	96.2	94.8	92.2	91.5	1947	64.9	68.5	75.0	76.8	72.2	51.1	49.0
1964	93.2	93.2	94.6	95.6	93.5	90.2	89.2	1946	59.4	59.0	62.4	68.1	62.9	49.1	46.7
1963	92.0	92.1	93.6	94.8	92.7	88.5	87.3								
1962	90.8	90.9	92.8	94.1	91.8	86.8	85.5	1945	56.9	53.6	56.3	64.1	58.6	48.2	45.1
1961	89.7	89.9	92.0	93.4	91.2	85.2	88.9	1944	55.7	52.2	54.7	61.6	56.6	47.5	44.2
								1943	53.6	51.3	54.0	58.4	53.8	46.4	42.1
1960	88.8	88.9	91.5	93.1	90.7	83.5	81.9	1942	52.1	47.7	49.6	56.0	51.6	45.6	40.3
1959	87.3	87.6	90.7	92.7	89.3	80.3	79.0	1941	48.7	42.4	43.3			44.2	38.6
1958	85.7	86.9	90.6	91.5	88.2	78.5	76.4								
1957	83.8	84.4	88.6	90.5	87.6	75.6	73.3	1940	47.8	39.9	40.6	48.0	44.7	43.6	38.1
1956	81.1	81.7	85.9	87.8	85.3	72.7	70.1	1939	47.2	39.7	40.2	47.7	44.3	43.5	38.1
								1938	47.5	40.4	41.0	48.5	45.0	43.4	38.1
1955	79.7	80.6	85.1	86.9	83.5	70.9	68.2	1937	47.0	41.6	42.6	48.5	45.3	42.6	37.8
1954	79.5	81.0	85.9	87.5	83.5	69.5	66.7	1936	45.4	40.3	41.0	46.5	43.5	41.3	37.4
1953	79.0	81.0	86.7	88.5	83.1	67.3	64.8								
								1935	44.9	39.8	40.5	46.0	43.1	40.9	37.6

Series E 174-182. Consumer Price Index (Hoover): 1851 to 1880

[1860 = 100]

Year	All items				Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel and light	Other
	Total	Less food	Less rent	Less food and rent					
	174	175	176	177					
1880	110	108	106	96	111	94	127	95	133
1879	108	105	105	95	110	94	122	92	134
1878	111	107	108	96	113	95	124	93	135
1877	118	109	117	101	125	99	123	98	138
1876	119	118	118	106	124	104	123	106	138
1875	128	116	122	108	129	105	129	110	140
1874	129	122	128	116	134	115	133	114	141
1873	133	128	131	122	136	122	139	120	142
1872	135	132	133	125	136	126	144	122	141
1871	135	133	134	127	137	128	144	125	142
1870	141	137	141	135	143	141	142	126	143
1869	147	141	148	141	151	148	141	132	145
1868	154	141	157	143	164	148	138	133	144
1867	157	149	161	157	163	166	135	140	144
1866	167	163	172	178	169	194	138	152	146
1865	175	181	183	209	170	238	134	159	147
1864	176	187	185	222	167	261	130	156	141
1863	189	151	144	173	129	197	113	136	115
1862	113	120	115	131	107	143	101	112	105
1861	101	103	102	107	99	110	95	103	102
1860	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1859	100	99	101	98	102	98	100	98	99
1858	99	100	99	100	99	99	100	103	98
1857	105	102	106	102	108	100	100	109	98
1856	102	102	102	101	102	100	103	106	96
1855	104	102	104	102	105	99	103	109	97
1854	101	103	101	103	100	100	102	113	96
1853	93	100	92	100	88	100	100	102	95
1852	93	100	91	100	87	101	100	99	95
1851	92	99	90	99	86	100	100	99	95

Series E 183-186. Cost-of-Living Indexes (Federal Reserve Bank of N. Y., Burgess, Douglas, Rees): 1820 to 1926

Year	1913 = 100		Douglas : (1890-99 = 100)	Rees (1914 = 100)	Year	1913 = 100		Rees (1914 = 100)	Year	1913 = 100	
	Federal Reserve Bank	Burgess				Federal Reserve Bank	Burgess			Federal Reserve Bank	Burgess
	183	184				183	184			183	184
1926			241		1890	78	67.8	91	1855	67	64.1
1925			240		1889	78	67.8		1854	64	60.9
1924			234		1888	78	67.5		1853	64	53.9
1923			234		1887	76	65.4		1852	60	53.7
1922			229		1886	76	65.3		1851	60	53.0
1921			246								
1920		203.7	286		1885	75	64.6		1850	54	58.4
1919		188.7	247		1884	77	66.4		1849	51	61.1
1918		171.1	218		1883	81	71.7		1848	54	63.1
1917		147.8	179		1882	36	76.1		1847	58	63.4
1916		113.4	149		1881	83	78.8		1846	58	59.0
1915		101.1	136		1880	80	71.3		1845	54	56.3
1914		102.5	139		1879	79	68.8		1844	52	54.5
1913	100	100.0	137	100	1878	80	69.6		1843	51	53.6
1912	102	92.8	133	97	1877	80	77.2		1842	55	53.5
1911	96	91.5	132	95	1876	81	78.0		1841	60	55.9
1910	96	93.1	128	95	1875	86	81.2		1840	60	
1909	91	88.6	121	91	1874	88	83.1		1839	71	
1908	91	84.4	121	92	1873	88	84.7		1838	71	
1907	95	82.0	126	94	1872	90	86.3		1837	72	
1906	90	78.2	119	90	1871	89	86.9		1836	68	
1905	87	76.0	115	89	1870	91	92.5		1835	60	
1904	87	76.1	115	89	1869	95	97.8		1834	51	
1903	88	74.8	116	88	1868	98	104.2		1833	58	
1902	84	74.8	111	86	1867	102	103.5		1832	57	
1901	82	70.6	108	85	1866	103	107.4		1831	56	
1900	80	67.7	106	84	1865	102	108.1		1830	54	
1899	77	66.1	102	83	1864	95	104.6		1829	58	
1898	75	65.9	100	83	1863	78	80.0		1828	57	
1897	75	63.9	100	83	1862	69	66.0		1827	57	
1896	74	62.9	99	84	1861	63	61.2		1826	55	
1895	73	64.2	97	84	1860	61	63.0		1825	58	
1894	73	65.3	97	86	1859	63	63.7		1824	57	
1893	75	69.1	100	90	1858	69	61.2		1823	61	
1892	77	67.5	102	91	1857	70	67.3		1822	64	
1891	76	68.8	101	92	1856	68	63.9		1821	62	
									1820	65	

¹ Douglas' index for 1890 is 104.

Series E 203-213. Retail Price Indexes (BLS) of Electricity, Gas, and Fuel for Residential Use: 1913 to 1970

[1967 = 100 except as otherwise indicated]

Year	Electricity		Gas					Fuel oil and coal	Fuel oil, No. 2 ³	Coal (1957-59 = 100)			
	Composite ¹	100 Kwh	Composite ²	Residential heating	Other than residential heating					210	211	Pennsylvania anthracite, stove size	Bituminous, all domestic sizes
					Composite ²	10 Therms ³	25 Therms ⁴						
1970	106.2	104.3	108.5	107.4	109.4	107.4	108.4	110.1	109.3				
1969	102.8	101.3	102.8	102.6	103.1	102.6	102.3	105.6	105.4				
1968	100.9	100.4	101.0	101.1	100.8	100.7	100.7	103.1	103.2				
1967	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0				
1966	99.1	98.5	100.2	100.4	100.0	100.3	100.1	97.0	96.9				
1965	99.1	98.2	99.6	99.9	99.3	100.2	99.7	94.6	94.4				
1964	99.6	98.0	99.3	100.2	98.6	99.3	99.7	92.7	92.5				
1963*	100.1	98.1	99.0	99.9	98.3	99.4	98.9	93.2	94.6				
1962	100.1	98.0	98.9	100.0	98.1	99.3	98.9	91.5	92.7	101.5	103.2		
1961	100.1	98.0	99.0	100.7	97.7	99.1	98.3	91.0	92.6	99.8	102.8		
1960	99.8	97.6	97.7	100.1	96.1	97.3	96.8	89.2	89.0	98.1	102.4		
1959	98.5	96.1	91.6	92.3	91.1	94.6	91.0	89.8	90.6	98.9	101.6		
1958	97.1	94.5	88.6	89.3	88.1	92.4	87.5	88.7	89.4	100.0	99.8		
1957	95.9	93.3	83.7	84.4	83.1	88.6	82.6	90.3	94.8	101.1	98.4		
1956	95.5	92.8	82.3	83.5	81.5	87.7	80.7	35.9	90.2	94.5	94.6		
1955	95.2	92.4	81.0	82.9	79.7	85.6	78.9	82.3	86.0	88.6	91.3		
1954	94.0	91.4	77.9	78.7	77.2	83.4	76.2	81.2	83.2	89.2	90.3		
1953	93.6	90.5	76.4	76.6	76.0	82.4	74.8	81.5	82.7	93.1	90.4		
1952	92.4	89.7	74.1	72.7	74.6	81.6	72.9	78.0	78.6	87.8	88.6		
1951	91.5	89.5	72.7	70.5	73.4	81.1	71.5	76.5	76.7	86.6	86.9		
1950	90.8	88.9	73.1	69.9	73.6	81.6	71.6	72.7	72.6	78.1	85.0		
1949	90.6	88.9	72.8	69.5	73.5	84.0	71.4	70.3	71.9	74.8	82.0		
1948	89.7	90.2	69.8	68.6	70.5	78.8	67.6	68.6	75.8	70.3	79.1		
1947	88.9	89.1	67.4	68.0	68.2	74.6	63.5	58.4	59.6	62.8	66.4		
1946	90.0	89.8	66.9	67.3	67.6	72.6	61.9	51.3	49.9	57.9	56.2		
1945	93.7	91.6	68.0	68.0	68.7	73.7	62.6	48.0	49.5	52.1	53.4		
1944	94.2	91.7	68.8	68.5	69.6	74.0	62.9	47.1	51.9	50.3	52.2		
1943	94.4	92.3	69.2	68.9	69.9	74.3	63.3	45.2	51.8	47.6	50.4		
1942	94.5	92.3	69.9	69.1	70.6	74.6	64.8	43.1	47.7	45.0	48.3		
1941	95.0	92.7	70.1	70.4	70.9	74.9	65.0	40.5	41.6	43.2	45.9		
1940	95.7	93.9	70.9	71.6	71.6	75.7	65.9	38.2	40.5	41.1	43.3		
1939	96.7	95.2	71.4	72.3	72.1	76.3	66.8	37.1	38.6	39.1	42.9		
1938	98.3	96.4	70.6	72.5	71.8	75.6	66.5	37.8	42.4	39.8	48.2		
1937	99.8	97.7	69.7	75.0	70.5	74.2	66.1	38.1	44.5	40.0	42.9		
1936	102.0	99.9	70.4	81.4	71.2	74.4	67.9	37.4	38.5	42.6	42.0		
1935	105.3	104.3	70.9	83.4	71.6	74.6	69.4	36.8	36.9	41.4	41.2		
1934	110.9	107.3								44.2	40.9		
1933	119.9	110.4								44.0	38.0		
1932	121.2	111.4								45.5	38.2		
1931	122.4	115.5								49.6	41.2		
1930	124.4	119.6								50.8	43.8		
1929	126.7	123.4								51.3	43.9		
1928	131.4	128.6								51.6	44.5		
1927	133.8	133.4								52.1	46.0		
1926	136.7	137.7								53.2	46.3		
1925	137.6	140.5								52.5	45.0		
1924	139.1	144.1								52.4	45.6		
1923	140.1	147.3								52.4	51.3		
1922	143.1									51.3	50.3		
1921	144.7									51.6	53.0		
1920	142.1									49.0	52.9		
1919	142.3									41.0	40.6		
1918	137.5									34.9	38.9		
1917	137.0									31.7	35.9		
1916	140.8									28.3	29.1		
1915	144.5									26.2	27.7		
1914	149.2									26.2	28.1		
1913	152.2									26.1	27.4		

* Denotes first year for which figures include Alaska and Hawaii.
¹ Combination of 100, 250, and 500 kw.-hrs. from 1964 to 1970; 40, 100, and 200 kw.-hrs. from 1953 to 1963; 25, 40, 100, and 250 kw.-hrs. from 1935 to 1952; and the "average consumption" in each component city prior to 1935.
² Combination of 10, 25, and 40 therms from 1964 to 1970; 10 and 25 therms from 1953 to 1965; and 10.6, 19.6, 30.6, and 40.6 therms prior to 1953.

³ 10 therms, 1953-1970; 10.6 therms, prior to 1953.
⁴ 25 therms, 1953-1970; 30.6 therms, prior to 1953.
⁵ Includes fuel oils No. 2 and 3 from 1939 through 1947.
⁶ December only.

Series E 214. Rent Indexes (Warren and Pearson) for Dwelling Units in 5 Large Cities: 1860 to 1880

[1860 = 100. Covers Boston, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Louisville, and St. Louis]

Year	Index		Year	Index		Year	Index	
	214	Year		214	Year		214	Year
1880	151	1875	1870	162	1865	180	1865	175
1879	148	1874	1869	166	1864	187	1864	168
1878	152	1873	1868	173	1863	179	1863	123
1877	148	1872	1867	173	1862	167	1862	101
1876	147	1871	1866	173	1861	187	1861	101
					1860		1860	100